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7 January 1985

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BAHRAIN

PAPER WARNS AGAINST PALESTINIAN DIVISIONS

GF220841 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 22 Nov (WAKH)--AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ daily warned against the division taking place between the Palestinian factions, particularly after the convening of the PNC in Amman.

It affirmed that the current occurrences on the Palestinian arena will demolish the past achievements of the PLO and will give the Zionist enemy a chance to practice its oppressive deeds against the Palestinians.

The daily stated that the occurrences of the Palestinian arena are filling the Palestinian people with bitterness and confusing the remaining Arab peoples, but they are making the Zionist enemy extremely happy. The enemy has lost no time in exploiting the Palestinian division to the maximum within and outside the occupied territories.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ stated that the enemy has started to transfer the current division to the residents of the West Bank in the Gaza Strip, where it is encouraging through the media and by political means the appearance of opposing opinions. The extremist Jewish groups are carrying out terrorist operations against 'Arafat supporters and his opposers, and in each case putting the blame on the other side.

In this regard the paper gave the example of the attack against the Palestinian journalist Ramonda al-Tawil, an 'Arafat supporter, and Karim Khalaf, former Ramallah mayor, who opposes the PNC meeting.

The daily concluded by saying that this exploitation by the enemy, the confusion of the Arab people, and the bitterness felt by the Palestinians in the occupied territories should be on top of the issues to be discussed by the PNC session in Jordan today before taking any decisions that impose the ominous division.

CSO: 4400/43

MINISTER VIEWS PROTECTION OF NATIONAL INDUSTRIES

GF272033 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Report by Hafiz Imam]

[Excerpt] In an exclusive statement to AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry, affirmed that the draft plan to protect the national industry, which the cabinet approved recently, has been formalized and enacted for 20 years to protect and support the national industries. He said that through these laws and terms, this plan agrees with the general bases laid down by the GCC industry ministers.

The minister of development and industry said that there are a number of conditions which enable protection of the national industries. He said that one of these conditions is that there should be a majority of national manpower working on any project and that the price value added to the production and manufacturing process should not be less than 40 percent of the product, so that the industry process will not turn into a simple process of filling, packing, or distributing. It is one of the conditions of protecting the national industries that, as we said, the price value added to the production and manufacturing process should not be less than 40 percent of the product and that the production should be on an excellent level and according to the required specifications for the production of these products.

Mr Yusuf al-Shirawi affirmed that one of the ways of protecting the national industry is to protect the projects by not permitting the existence of a rival factory. If a factory manufactures a product that covers the local market, the opening of another factory will not be permitted unless there is an excessive demand for these products. This is not to encourage a monopoly but to prevent destructive competition so as to protect national industries.

The minister of development and industry said that one of the means for protecting the national industry is to raise the rate of the customs imposed on imports which glut the markets; in protection of the local industries, the rate should be between 10 and 20 percent. This should be set for a defined period and in a way which would not harm the consumer. Also, another means for protection is to limit the imports and to give project priority to other government projects.

The minister of development and industry pointed out that the basis for protection of the national industries does not mean depriving the citizen or prevent him from importing. He said: Yes we protect the national industries but at the same time we do not ban the import of the same products. If the manufactured product does not have a reasonable price and quality, any protection against the competition of a product which has better quality and reasonable price will be useless.

CSO: 4400/43

BRIEFS

BUDGET DEFICIT--Manama, 4 Nov (GNA)--Bahrain recorded a bd [Bahraini dinars] 47 million budget deficit, for 1983, Minister of Finance and National Economy Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim said Sunday. In a cabinet session chaired by the prime minister H. E. Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the cabinet was briefed on the island's financial position through a report submitted by a financial ministerial committee. It indicated that the total income recorded in 1983 was bd 485 million against bd 532 million expenditure. Wages, services and purchases accounted for bd 310 million expenditure while projects recorded an expenditure of bd 222 million, Mr 'Abd al-Karim indicated. The cabinet was presented a report by Minister of Development and Industry Yusif al-Shirawi on the world oil market following the GCC oil ministerial committee meeting held in Geneva last week. The outcome of the GCC meeting of power and water ministers held in Doha was also discussed. [Text] [Manama WAKH in English 1616 GMT 4 Nov 84]

CSO: 4400/43

IRAQ

KURDISH LEADER EXPECTS TURKISH INVASION OF IRAQ

AU121355 Vienna ARBEITER-ZEITUNG in German 12 Dec 84 p 3

[Spelling of Kurdish names as published]

[Text] Vienna (AZ)--A Turkish invasion in the Kurdish regions of Iraq may begin at any time. This was stated by Massud Barzani, son of the legendary Kurdish leader Mullah Mustafa Barzani, at a press conference in Vienna.

Massud Barzani, chairman of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan (DPK) of Iraq, met with several Austrian politicians including former Chancellor Kreisky and SPOE International Secretary Peter Jankowitsch.

There is an agreement between Ankara and Baghdad, he said, which permits the Turks to attack Kurds on Iraqi territory. At present, air reconnaissance of the Turks is underway, Barzani declared. He appealed to the world public to help the Kurds against this Turkish threat.

Barzani's DPK, which is allied with the Tehran regime, considers the Iraqi-Iranian war as a "catastrophe for the peoples of both countries." According to Barzani, this war was started by the Iraqi Saddam Husayn regime. Without its overthrow and its replacement by a democratic coalition government based on free elections, in the DPK's opinion neither an end to the Gulf war nor a resolving of the Kurdish problems is possible, he said.

Other Kurdish organizations hold a critical view of the DPK, asserting that it is taking part in the oppression of the Iranian Kurds by Tehran.

CSO: 4400/43

IRAQ

INTERVIEW WITH KURDISH LEADER M. BARZANI

PM201429 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 12 Nov 84 p 8

[Interview with Mas'ud Barzani, chairman of Democratic Party of Kurdistan [DPK] by 'Amir Badr Hassan in Damascus; date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The [Iraq-Iran] war has now entered its fifth year and it appears to have reached a more critical and dangerous phase than ever before. How do you view these dangers and how can they be faced?

Answer: There is no doubt that since it erupted Saddam's war created a grave tension in the area. We believe that the dangers of this war stem from the fact that it is supported and encouraged by reactionary imperialism. Iraq's dictator has waged this war against neighboring Iran in accordance with serious plans laid by these hostile forces with the aim of squandering the resources of Iraq and the Iranian revolution after it became evident that its resources would become an addition to the Arab nation's resources and those of the liberation movement in the area confronting the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary onslaught.

The Iraqi regime is historically responsible for starting this war and for the tragic human and material losses which the two friendly peoples have suffered. Events have proved that Saddam's regime, which has caused this disaster for our people and country, is not qualified to achieve peace. Evil and aggressive inclinations are rooted in the regime's domestic and foreign policies.

The real dangers in this criminal war lie in the fact that the regime is constantly trying to find for itself a way out of that war. It will not hesitate to pursue any course, regardless of the consequence for Iraq, in order to perpetuate its rule. The regime has tried and is continuing to try to internationalize this war and to involve other parties in it. It is also threatening the international navigation routes. Such practices give U.S. imperialism the necessary justifications to step up its onslaught which aims at taking control of the destinies of the peoples of the area, to exert pressures, and to intervene directly.

The basic task in our current struggle is to topple the present fascist regime in Iraq in view of the fact that this would be the initial step toward solving the country's principal problems and ending tension in the area.

Question: What were the direct and immediate reasons for the Iraqi regime seeking help from the Turkish forces? Is the struggle being waged by the armed factions of the nationalist forces the only direct reason for the regime's request for help? What are the dangers involved in this precedent and can it be faced?

Answer: The immediate reason for the Iraqi regime's request for help from the NATO Turkish forces in suppressing the Iraqi people's will is the growing national resistance movement and its control over large areas of liberated land. The Iraqi regime has no power on those areas and they are entirely out of its control. The Iraqi regime has actually failed in all its attempts and military campaigns to restore its control on these areas.

We believe that the humiliating security agreement which the Baghdad rulers concluded with Turkey is in Turkey's interest. In return for this political attitude on the part of the Turkish side, Saddam gave Turkey economic and oil facilities.

The security agreement in question is potentially dangerous and constitutes a serious precedent. It cannot be separated from the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary action against the Arab liberation movement and the progressive regimes in the area. It aims at helping the Baghdad regime in confronting the escalating nationalist resistance.

This agreement is regarded as a crime committed by the Iraqi regime against the Iraqi people and the country because it allows forces of a foreign country and a member of NATO alliance to invade Iraq and suppress the freedom of its people, the fact is that the regime, day and night, boasts about defending the nation but is actually waging an aggressive war under this slogan.

We have learned that the depth of military operations was recently extended to 30 km. The Iraqi regime which was forced to recognize the existence of such agreement is looking for justifications for its criminal plan and always tries to portray those who reject its chauvinistic policies as aliens while in fact the resistance is a reaction to oppression, repression, and political coercion of our Iraqi people.

Question: What are the possibilities of realizing your slogan, which is also the slogan of all the Iraqi nationalist forces, that calls for the establishment of a broad national front and what would be the effect of the failure to form such front on the Iraqi people and all its struggling forces?

Answer: There is no doubt that the participation of all the Iraqi nationalist forces and parties in the struggle through a broad national front is very essential.

We believe that the absence of one single person, let alone a party, from the field of national duty leaves a vacuum. For this reason the democratic national front [as published: al-Jabhah al-Wataniyah al-Dimuqratiyah] has, since its inception, exerted great and continuing efforts to form a broad national front.

It has taken several initiatives in this regard, most important of which was probably the one it launched in January 1981 and, more recently, in February 1984. I would like to say that the Democratic National Front is not responsible for the nonestablishment of this broad front so far.

Intensive efforts are now being made to establish this front. We believe that better coordination between the Democratic National Front and the various parties and forces would ensure that this front will embrace the largest number of Iraqi parties, forces, and independent personalities.

On this occasion I would like to affirm that the Democratic National Front strongly welcomes every nationalist force and personality that wishes to join this alliance. We believe in a broad front and are aware of the conditions of our struggle and the struggle of the Iraqi masses. We are confident that the establishment of this front would put in the hands of our people an effective means of struggle for the achievement of the urgent national objectives and ridding our people of the regime of war and terror.

Question: Does the Democratic National Front absorb the large number of soldiers who reject the war regime and does the inclusion of them in the partisan battalions represent the best way to exploit their capabilities in the efforts to topple the regime?

Answer: The Democratic National Front does regularly absorb the military personnel who reject the war regime. It organizes them and enlightens them within the existing framework. In fact there are two types of such soldiers:

The first is the type who is politically committed to this or that party and often joins the ranks with his weapon and equipment in order to take his place in the struggle.

The second is usually politically uncommitted who deserts the service for several reasons, foremost of which is that he does not believe in the war being waged by the aggressive regime. More often than not he is unarmed and needs enlightenment. In view of our limited resources we sometimes find it difficult to absorb these large numbers of people who reject war. In the light of its understanding of the nature of struggle against the dictatorial regime and its requirements, the Democratic National Front has organized the defectors and placed them in villages and in the countryside, thereby forming a large popular resistance movement struggling side by side with the Democratic National Front and acting as a powerful reserve for the front in its confrontation with the dictatorial forces.

CSO: 4400/43

IRAQ

BAGHDAD AZERI ATTACKS OPPRESSION AGAINST KORDESTAN

GF111530 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Summary from poor reception] Dear listeners, we are now going to talk about the intensity of the war being waged against Kordestan, the oppression resorted to by the Revolution Guards, and the mobilization of the Revolution Guards against Kordestan. Reports from Kordestan say that the people there have converted this land into a large cemetery for the Revolution Guards. And, this points to a great reality—that being the failure of the government here.

"What is the wish of the heroic Kurdish people who are confronting the Iranian regime like a mountain? What do they wish for apart from autonomy whereby they will live in freedom and preserve their traditions? The reactionary and despotic Khomeyni regime must clearly understand that the Iranian Kurds will not relinquish their struggle and relentless moves until they achieve a result—until they establish autonomy in Kordestan.

"The free people of the world know well that the right demanded by the Iranian Kurds is similar to the one the Muslim and Democratic Iraqi Government has given to the Iraqi Kurds. The world knows that the Iranian Kurds are not secessionists. However, they wish that they too are given the rights enjoyed by the Iraqi Kurds. Nevertheless, the Iranian Kurds are against reactionarism, dictatorship, lawlessness, pillage, plunder, discrimination, and genocide and opposed to becoming bandits working for Israel. The Iranian Kurds wish to (?be partners) with the other Iranian peoples. And, they will do everything within their power to free themselves from the turbaned bandits of Iran.

"The reason for this is that the Khomeyni regime is a tyrannical, executioner, and murderous administration. This regime likes to shed blood. Regardless of its moves to prolong the war, organize savage attacks on Kordestan's towns and villages, and murder innocent people, the regime has described those who favor the ending of the war with Iraq and the [words indistinct] as illiterate, opponent, and revolutionary."

This is the situation created by the Iranian regime. This is the rule of the disgusting Iranian rulers. This is why the world asks about the reason for all this bloodshed. This is why it wonders when it will end.

CSO: 4400/43

IRAQ

INTERVIEW WITH KURDISTAN SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY

PM230951 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 14 Nov 84 p 8

[Interview with Rasul Mamand, secretary general of the Kurdistan Socialist Party, by 'Amir Badr Hassun--date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Hassun] Why is the Iraqi regime seeking the assistance of the Turkish forces at this particular time?

[Mamand] There can be no doubt that at this stage the Iraqi regime's objective in allowing Turkish armed forces to enter Iraqi territory is to stem the revolutionary tide in Iraq in view of the mounting strength of the nationalist armed groups and the regime's failure to face them because of the regime's isolation from the masses and its enormous difficulties, especially its aggressive war.

This agreement [to allow Turkish forces into Iraq] comes immediately after the failure of the attack launched by the Iraqi regime's forces and mercenaries against al-Ansar forces in the period between 27 August 1984 and 3 September 1984. They were unable to make any military advances toward the liberated areas of (al-Jabal al-Abyad) and (Mankish) in Dahuk Province. The regime's regular and mercenary forces suffered heavy losses. That is why they sought the help of the Turkish forces to encircle the rebels. Furthermore, Saddam and his regime, in their present condition, need Turkish support because the Iraqi economy depends to a large extent on the pipeline across Turkey. Also, through Turkey, a NATO member, Saddam is trying to build bridges to and coordinate with NATO.

[Hassun] As the [Iraq-Iran] war enters its 5th year its aims and the danger of Iraq and to the entire region are clearer than ever before. How do you view the risks involved in that war and how should it be tackled?

[Mamand] Our party adopted a clear stand on the war from the very beginning. We have strongly condemned it as an unjustified war started by the tyrant Saddam with the encouragement of imperialist and reactionary circles. We see real dangers threatening our people and their national sovereignty as a result of the Iraqi regime's policy and mad war. The regime pretends that it wants the war to end but at the same time it tries hard to extend and internationalize the war by involving the Gulf states to pave the way for intervention by imperialist forces. It falsely claims to defend the homeland but at the same time invites Turkish forces to occupy important and strategic areas in our beloved Iraq.

In view of these dangers we are striving to end the war on the basis of a fair and democratic reconciliation in the interest of both countries without undermining their independence or national sovereignty. Both countries would then be able to use their energies against their common enemies, namely imperialism, Zionism and reaction. This is in harmony with the struggle we began years before the war with the aim of toppling the dictatorial regime and setting up a nationalist democratic regime capable of ending the war, establishing democracy, and restoring Iraq's natural position in the Arab national liberation movement against imperialist-Zionist designs. We wish to point out here that should the war end as a result of international efforts, we will insist on our position, holding Saddam Husayn responsible for starting the war and for the results and calamities that war has brought upon the two countries and peoples. Our struggle will not stop until it achieves all its objectives, especially the downfall of the fascist dictatorial regime and the setting up of a national coalition government.

[Hassun] What developments have occurred in the methods of struggle against the fascist dictatorial regime and how have these methods affected mass expressions of opposition to the regime?

[Mamand] All Iraqi areas have witnessed positive developments in the nationalist forces' struggle over the past year. Qualitative and daring operations have been carried out against the regime's forces and repressive organs. The military operations of the al-Ansar nationalist fighters have reached town centers, particularly in Irbil, Kirkuk, al-Sulaymaniyah, and Dahuk. These operations have raised the morale of our people and increased their faith in their ability to resist the regime despite all its repressive measures. This explains the sweeping popular uprising which occurred last spring. It first started at the Salah al-Din University in Irbil and then extended to all towns and districts reaching Mosul University and Baghdad's al-Mustansiriyah University.

As far as our party is concerned, there has been a positive development in its struggle methods. As the number of secret cells in the cities increased they began carrying out their revolutionary missions with extreme efficiency and they also began enlightening the masses. They carried out daring operations aimed at liquidating the regime's symbols, the traitors, and the mercenaries. These operations were carried out on instructions from the party command.

[Hassun] You have recently met with President Hafiz al-Asad. Please tell us about the impressions you formed during that meeting. Also, how do you view Syria's anti-imperialist role in the region?

[Mamand] During our meeting with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad we sensed his understanding and appreciation of our people's sufferings as a result of the fascist clique's policies, which have plunged our people and country into a devastating war against our neighbor Iran, and as a result of the clique's reign of terror. The president was also appreciative of the Iraqi national movement's struggle to bring down Saddam's regime and end the war through democratic reconciliation and peace guaranteeing the sovereignty rights of the two friendly peoples.

We also discussed with his excellency the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs and means of confronting them, the victory achieved by the Arab National Liberation Movement in foiling the 17 May agreement in Lebanon, and the escalation of the Lebanese national resistance against the Zionist occupation forces. The [Iraqi National] Front's delegation praised Syria's important and effective national and pan-Arab role in confronting imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs. The delegation expressed our front's and the Iraqi people's support for steadfast Syria affirming that we count on it to confront and frustrate U.S.-Zionist designs and plots in the region.

CSO: 4400/43

IRAQ

BRIEFS

IRAQ EDUCATION AGREEMENT--Belgrade, 7 Nov (TANJUG)--Yugoslavia and Iraq signed an agreement in Belgrade today, Wednesday, on the equivalency of certificates, degrees, and diplomas awarded in secondary schools, universities, and other authorized institutions in Yugoslavia and the Republic of Iraq. The agreement was signed following talks between Iraqi Education Minister 'Abd al-Qadir 'Izz al-Din with his host Yugoslav Institute for International Scientific Educational, Cultural and Technical Cooperation Director Miljenko Zrelec. [Text] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 1649 GMT 7 Nov 84 LD]

LAW ON OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS--The Presidential Office has issued a directive forbidding employees of government departments to keep official documents at home. The directive states that this behavior causes great damage to the interests of the state and is punishable by up to 5 years' imprisonment. The directive explains that some employees and officials keep official documents in their homes even after their retirement and that in certain cases these documents are of a sensitive nature. The directive has been distributed to all ministries and departments so that all state employees will be informed of the necessity to desist from this illegal behavior, which is harmful to the state and is punishable according to Article 341 of the penal code, by a minimum 5-year prison term. [Summary] [Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Oct 84]

CSO: 4400/43

INTERVIEW WITH LEBANESE CENTRAL COMMITTEE POLITBURO MEMBER

AU211544 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 17 Nov 84 pp 1, 4

[Dispatch on interview with Karim Muruwah, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Communist Party of Lebanon, by Julius P. Loerincz and CTK Beirut correspondent Vaclav Bervid, on 14 November: "The Aggressor Must Not Be Rewarded"; passages between slantlines are published in boldface]

[Text] /To make contact with one of the leading functionaries of the Communist Party of Lebanon, and to have the opportunity to sit down with him for an hour and discuss the present situation in Lebanon and the Middle East, is not easy in Beirut these days. The credit for the fact that I, together with CTK correspondent Vaclav Bervid, succeeded in it goes primarily to the comrades from the fraternal communist daily AL-NIDA' and, of course, also to the readiness and interest of the comrades from the party leadership to find time for a meeting with journalists in the turbulent political atmosphere of Lebanon. We met Karim Muruwah, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Communist Party of Lebanon, this week; he received us in his own apartment./

It was on Wednesday [14 November], the day when the government decided to continue military talks in al-Nagurah with Israel on the withdrawal of its troops from the occupied parts of the country because, under pressure from the Lebanese resistance movement and following an intervention of UN representatives, the Israeli authorities finally decided to release the four leaders of the Amal patriotic Shi'ite movement who had been taken prisoner in the south. It was the day when it became more clearly evident that the extremist Muslim official Sa'id Sha'ban from Tripoli, whose Islamic Unification Movement had exactly a year ago massacred communists in the north of the country, did not gain the broad support in West Beirut that he had expected. The fact that Sha'ban occupied in Beirut one of the former apartments of Yasir 'Arafat is certainly not devoid of interest. This range of problems, which are naturally not isolated from the increased political activity in the area of the United States, whose emissary Richard Murphy is on a shuttle mission between the Arab countries and Israel, represented the subject of our discussion with Comrade Karim Muruwah.

The first question concerned the view of the Communist Party of Lebanon on the present situation, which is marked--inside the country, but also in the Middle East in general--by a certain activation of reactionary and imperialist forces, especially after Ronald Reagan's reelection as U.S. President./

Comrade K. Muruwah first spoke about the external factors:

"After Reagan's reelection, the United States is trying to return to this area in an aggressive fashion, a goal that is to be served by Murphy's negotiations, which should result in a new formulation of American policy for the Middle East. /New only in terms of tactical procedure in the stage of implementation, but without any changes in the aggressive potential of the American and Israeli policy, which must not be underestimated,/ even if we consider that the United States has undoubtedly suffered several defeats here. After all, the American Marines had to pull out of Lebanon; the humiliating Israeli-American agreement of 17 May 1983 suffered a fiasco, thanks to the national movement in our country, including the broad-based movement of popular resistance in the occupied south, in Rashayya, and in the western part of the al-Biqa' Valley; and, because of certain domestic difficulties, Israel has had to at least contemplate the possibility of a withdrawal of its troops from southern Lebanon.

"But the United States and Israel continue to have a sharply aggressive attitude toward the Arab national liberation movement. They are trying to weaken the anti-American and anti-imperialist thrust in it, taking advantage of difficulties of the Arab and Palestinian anti-imperialist front and making use of all kinds of reactionary agents. They are exerting great pressure on Syria and, together with reactionary forces in the region, would like to mould together some sort of a strategic alliance against the Soviet Union and everything that is progressive. These are the characteristic features of the U.S. endeavor to return in an offensive to the Middle Eastern stage. Murphy is trying to involve the United States in the Lebanese-Israeli military talks under UN auspices in such a way as to ensure that the talks develop according to Israeli, and not according to Lebanese demands."

[Loerincz] How does the Communist Party of Lebanon view the talks at al-Nagui? What does it think about their prospects?

[Muruwah] "Although the chances for a partial, or complete, withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Lebanese territory have undoubtedly increased, we indulge in no illusions in this respect. The pressure on Lebanon is enormous; but we cannot accept any so-called security agreement according to Israeli conditions or a restriction on the movement of resistance. /The withdrawal of troops must be complete and unconditional, without any advantages or gains for the aggressor. To put it clearly and simply: The aggressor must not be rewarded./

"From this viewpoint it is important, for example, that the Lebanese Government demand not only the release of the four leaders of the Amal movement in the south as was the case in the past days, but of all prisoners. Let us not forget that more than 1,100 Lebanese and Palestinians are detained in the Ansar concentration camp alone.

"The Israelis and their Lebanese agents are facing increasingly difficult conditions in the occupied parts of our country; the national patriotic movement of resistance is thus effective and credible. It is essential that this broad movement further consolidate itself internally in political and military terms and that our ruling regime be made to support the resistance movement politically and materially.

"I would like to note here that /the struggle for the liberation of the country cannot be separated from the struggle for democratic reforms in the Lebanese political, economic, and social life./ I am saying this because, under the pretext of the priority of the struggle for the liberation of the south, Rashayya, and the western part of the al-Biq'a Valley, the government delays or eschews democratic reforms. /The liberation struggle can only be consistent if democratic reforms in the country are implemented as well."/

We thus [word indistinct] to the internal factors of the situation. Comrade Karim Muruwah said that, in his opinion, the reactionary forces are not capable of completely reversing the development, an important landmark in which was 6 February 1984 when patriotic, national, and progressive forces in a sharp armed conflict put an end to the onslaught of the reaction, especially the phalangist al-Kata'eb party, toward monopoly rule. A government of national unity has gradually been formed; the United States and other NATO states have had to withdraw from the country militarily; Lebanon has cancelled the treaty with Israel of 17 May 1983; the Arab orientation of Lebanon has begun to be manifested more distinctly; and the government consults with Syria on its policy.

"However, this does not mean that reactionary forces have given up their efforts to change the situation and strengthen their positions," said Comrade K. Muruwah and recalled that the tendency continues to be visible on their part to give the political movement in the country a denominational character, that is, to provoke tension and new conflicts among individual religious groups: "Religious sectarianism [konfesionalismus] is the ideological and political program of the bourgeoisie in our conditions and it is clear that it does not provide any possibility of resolving the political, economic, and social crisis of the society./ The instigators of religious sectarianism from among Christian and Muslim circles weaken under the banner of religious obscurantism the possibilities of the patriotic liberation movement. We, in the Communist Party of Lebanon, therefore pay great attention to this issue, cooperate with Muslim movements that have a patriotic character, and try with them to prevent religious fanaticism from gaining scope."

As far as the government of national unity is concerned, Comrade K. Muruwah said that although its formation and existence is a success of patriotic forces, the positions of patriots in the government itself are not sufficiently firm: /"This government is not capable of implementing democratic reforms that would do away with religious sectarianism in the country's political life. However, it is within its reach to effect at least some reforms within the framework of religious sectarianism, reforms that would more realistically express the religious composition of the population."/

[Loerincz] What is the place of the National Democratic Front in Lebanon society, the front that was founded recently in cooperation of the Progressive Socialist Party, the Communist Party of Lebanon, the Arab Democratic Party, the Syrian National Socialist Party, and other smaller organizations?

"It is a voluntary formation of people's forces that identify with the democratic path of Lebanon's advancement," said Comrade K. Muruwah. "The line and the spirit of the front find their practical expression as an embodiment of the unity of patriotic forces. However, so far the front is mainly a declared one. /We would like it to become an organized and effective political movement having an influence on the people's masses, a movement maximally mobilizing forces for the struggle against the Israeli aggression and for democratic reforms in society."/

At the close of our discussion, Comrade Karim Muruwah stressed that an important positive role in the development of the situation in Lebanon, and in the region at large, is played not only by the broad movement of national resistance in the country directed against the Zionist occupation and aggression, but also by the anti-imperialist stand of Syria, and, above all, by the policy of active solidarity with the Arab national liberation struggle enacted by the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4400/44

LEBANON

BRIEFS

HEZBOLLAH STARTS RADIO STATION--The Moslem militia Hezbollah has stepped up its activities in the field of information. Besides starting a radio station in the al-Biqa' Valley whose broadcasts can be heard over a large part of Lebanese territory, it has begun publishing a weekly, AL-AHAD, which is distributed in the Al-Biqa' and in Beirut's southern suburbs. [Text] [Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 6-12 Aug 84 p 19]

CSO: 4400/44

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN--Jeddah, 20 Nov (WAKH)--The Islamic Development Bank and the PDRY have signed an agreement so that the PDRY may import crude oil, cement, iron, and wood worth \$31.42 million. [Summary] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1755 GMT 20 Nov 84 GF]

CSO: 4400/45

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

FOILED COUP ATTEMPT--Kuwait, 3 Nov (KUNA)--Arab Republic of Yemen authorities have aborted a few weeks ago a plot aimed at changing the regime and foiled, in the meantime, the assassination of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, a Kuwaiti daily reported Saturday. Quoting what it described as well-informed sources, daily AL-WATAN reported that the president's guards were able to arrest a man who shot but missed the president. Important and completely secret investigations uncovered that a number of military personnel and civilians were involved in the abortive coup attempt. The sources which the daily declined to name, indicated that the involved elements have received financial aid from outside Yemen. AL-WATAN went on saying that the investigations revealed that an Arab diplomat was involved in the plot, but did not say whether the coup and the assassination attempt were directly linked to each other. The two plots, the paper pointed out, were carried before Saleh's trip to Moscow where he signed the Soviet-Yemeni friendship agreement, the first of its kind between the two countries. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 3 Nov 84]

STATE GENERAL BUDGET--The YAR cabinet held an extraordinary meeting today chaired by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, chairman of the cabinet and member of the Standing Committee. The meeting discussed the general budget of the country and the general and mixed sectors budget for fiscal year 1985. A comprehensive discussion was held on the statements and the analyses presented by the Ministry of Finance concerning the economic activities of the state administrative and economic organs. The cabinet adopted many decisions aimed at solving the economic and financial situation. The cabinet adopted the general budget of the state estimated at 8,895,372,000 Yemeni riyals. It has been referred to the People's Council so as to complete the necessary constitutional measures. [Excerpt] [Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 84]

CSO: 4400/45

MUSAVI: IRAQI-U.S. TIES WILL PROVOKE ANTI-AMERICANISM

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] TEHRAN, Nov 28 (IRNA)--Prime Minister Hussein Musavi said here today that resumption of diplomatic ties between the United States and Iraq was an attempt to strengthen the reactionary front in the region but would only precipitate greater anti-Americanism.

"The resumption of (diplomatic) ties, brought to light a deep relationship which had been existing between the two countries," Musavi said.

Speaking after a cabinet meeting he quoted the Iraq regime as saying it had intended to make public its ties with the United States in 1979, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

"In a bid to save Israel from the ever-expanding Islamic movement, the United States is trying to strengthen relations between Egypt, Iraq and the reactionary countries in the region."

"U.S. pressure on the Islamic Republic will have no effect other than to provoke hatred of the people against the United States."

He said the new diplomatic initiatives in the region were directly connected to the preparedness of the Islamic army and were an attempt to boost the morale of the shaky Ba'ahtist forces.

CSO: 4600/129

IRAN

ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS SPREAD

GF021900 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Dec 84

[Text] Demonstrations against the Islamic regime are growing more extensive every day. Following demonstrations in Mashhad and Tabriz, demonstrations have spread to the cities of Damghan, Sharud, and Kerman. Our correspondent reports that demonstrations in various cities of our country have assumed a chainlike reaction and cries of protest against the Islamic Republic and Ayatollah Khomeyni are heard everywhere and from every side.

A knowledgeable source told our correspondent that the events in Tabriz and Mashhad should be interpreted as the beginning of a general storm and added that Tabriz is no longer under the control of the Islamic regime. The people of this city during the last few days have shown that they are no longer willing to tolerate the Islamic regime. Tabriz, which lacks so many amenities, has complaints against the regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni. It is Ayatollah Khomeyni who, by insulting the sacred things of the people of Tabriz, has aroused their anger and aversion.

Our correspondent quoting those who have returned from Shahrud, Damghan and Kerman, says there have been confrontations and scattered demonstrations in these cities in support of a national government and calling for the toppling of the Islamic regime. A member of the Guards Corps in Damghan said that representatives of the regime in this city feel helpless against the storm.

CSO: 4640/165

IRAN

AYATOLLAH QOMI URGES STRUGGLE AGAINST KHOMEYNI

3F030527 London KEYHAN in Persian 29 Nov 84 p 1

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Mashhad--Just before KEYHAN went into print, it was announced that the grand Ayatollah Seyyed Hasan Tabatabai'i-Qomi has issued a statement inviting the Shi'ite clergy to an extensive and continuous struggle against the Government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. Qomi has announced that any claim of Velayat or guardianship on behalf of the Iranian nation is against the holy Islamic Sharia' no matter who the claimant.

He has also warned against the plots of the materialists, polytheists and those who wish to blacken the name of Islam in Iran due to the criminal actions of the current regime. Copies of Qomi's statement have been sent to Najaf for grand Ayatollah Kho'i, to Qom for grand Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari, and also to a number of Shi'ite leaders at home and abroad. Sources close to Qomi claim that the ayatollah has started the "final struggle" against the Khomeyni government and has said: We will go to the end, the Lord is with us.

Qomi refused a request for an audience in Mashhad for Hojjat ol Eslam 'Ali Musavi-Khamenei, the Islamic president, and stated that such an audience will be subject to Khamene'i announcing that the Islamic ummah do not require a guardian.

CSO: 4640/163

AYATOLLAH QOMI'S RELATIVES ARRESTED

GF030532 London KEYHAN in Persian 29 Nov 84 p 1

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] The latest report from Mashhad indicates that following the bloody demonstrations in Mashhad on Arba'in and the subsequent 2 days, the regime has arrested a large number of well-known figures in Mashhad, including two sons of the grand ayatollah Hasan Tabataba'i-Qomi.

According to reports coming out of Mashhad, the guards of the regime currently have under siege the Mashhad districts of Bast-e Bala, Bazarche Pa'in, Tabarrosi Avenue, and the area around the shrine in Goharshad mosque. Last Thursday they arrested two sons of Ayatollah Qomi, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mahmud and Seyyed Sadeq Tabataba'i. Ayatollah Qomi's brother, Hojjat ol-Eslam Tabataba'i, who is the prayer leader of Nurian mosque located in Tehran's Zendan crossing—he was also in Mashhad at the time—has also been arrested. Reports coming from Mashhad also indicate that the 'Alizadeh brothers, who are among famous Mashhadi merchants, Dr Salari, Dr Mas'ud Mir Kalali—from the Sarem-Kalali family—and Dr Mahmud (Barq'i), who is a relative of Ayatollah Qomi, are also among the arrested.

Even though the regime agents wanted to arrest Ayatollah Qomi himself, they only put his house under siege and cut his telephone lines to stop contact with the outside world, in fear of popular anger against the regime and to avoid possible demonstrations. The arrest of two doctors from Mashhad, Dr Salari and Dr Kalali, both of whom were police surgeons, is related to the revelation of the number of people killed in the city during the clashes and also as a result of the publication of photographs of the dead.

It is also rumored that during the second day of demonstrations by the people of Mashhad, the prisoners of Vakilabad Jail also held demonstrations against the regime. According to reliable sources, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Va'ez-Tabasi, the official in charge of the shrine of the eight Imam and Ayatollah Khomeyni's representative in Mashhad, personally went to Vakilabad prison—it is a prison similar to Qezel Hesar open prison in Karaj—to oversee the crushing of the prison uprising. Khorasan television has carried special programs such as movies and cartoons in the past few weeks, an act unprecedented in the past 5 years. According to a Mashhadi traveller who arrived in London on Tuesday, the regime is doing this in an attempt to stop people from coming out of their homes. This traveller estimated the number of dead in Mashhad at over 50, while putting the number of the wounded at over 200.

ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS SPREAD TO TEHRAN

GF031424 London KEYHAN in Persian 29 Nov 84 p 1

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Following the bloody clashes in Mashhad, Tabriz, Tehran, and Esfahan last week, demonstrations were held in Amjadiyeh Square and Roosevelt Avenue in Tehran this Friday in which four people were killed and at least 20 wounded as a result of shooting by guards. Amjadiyeh Square, the scene of bloody clashes last month in which many people were killed and wounded following demonstrations and clashes with the guards, was again the scene of similar demonstrations last week. However, law enforcement agents, security forces, and the guards were aware of this demonstration and as soon as the crowd started to gather they entered the square. They first used tear gas and then fired shots into the air to disperse the crowd. The crowd failed to disperse and in unity continued chanting slogans against the regime and Ayatollah Khomeyni and resisted attacks by the guards.

The demonstrations started at 1500 at the beginning of a football match. This was the first match to be held since the demonstrations last month which damaged Amjadiyeh's sports facilities. The last demonstrations centered over the sale of 36,000 tickets and a crowd over 50,000 at a stadium that cannot hold more than 20,000 people. The people used the opportunity to chant slogans against the regime and Khomeyni in their demonstrations. At the time the regime had not expected such demonstrations so there were not enough guards on duty. Most of the guards escaped when attacked at the start of the demonstrations while some sided with the people. When the demonstrators entered Roosevelt Avenue, additional groups of guards were dispatched and dispersed the crowds by firing on them, killing and wounding many of them. Some people were arrested on the spot, while others were taken on subsequent days, among whom was Tehran's football official. The regime then put the onus on sports writers who wrote that football is not an Iranian sport and that people must be encouraged toward more traditional sports such as wrestling and track and field events. However, the program they proposed collapsed and football matches resumed. This time during the matches many guards watched the crowd. However, in the match that was played in Amjadiyeh stadium on Friday afternoon, a similar scene was repeated. This time the people were more angry and were prepared to demonstrate;

and the regime too was more watchful and had a great number of people on the scene. The crowd was much more supervised when entering the sports arena but demonstrations broke out immediately after the arena was full of spectators.

Demonstrations outside the field also started at the same time. The guards used tear gas to disperse the crowds but the people would not leave, especially since the public's mood has changed compared to last month and chants and slogans against the regime have become a rather ordinary event. Therefore, slogans against the regime and its officials, especially Khomeyni, became hotter and the guards started firing their guns. Meanwhile, Toyota cars were waiting for the demonstrators on Roosevelt Avenue and arrests began. Some demonstrators were wounded.

On the same day there were some demonstrations in a number of Tehran mosques against the regime. Some slogans were raised, asking why the officials of the regime do not send their own children to the fronts? These slogans were related to mobilization week celebrations and the dispatching of people to the fronts. According to rumors circulating in the city, in the course of the demonstrations a number of clergy were arrested. Reports from Esfahan indicate that antiregime demonstrations were held in this city which led to the wounding, death, or arrest of some people.

CSO: 4640/165

IRAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY ACCUSES ICRC OF PARTIALITY

'Abandonment of Neutrality'

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 25 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Tehran, Nov 24 (IRNA)--The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic expressed regret Saturday for the latest stance by the International Committee of the Red Cross (CRC) on the condition of Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran.

It said a statement issued by the ICRC President Alexander Hay had "with utmost regret" put the organization in the camp of Iraqi supporters.

A statement issued by the ministry said the Islamic Republic has respected and will always respect the Geneva Convention and would continue to treat Iraqi PoWs in the best humanitarian manner.

It said the ICRC had reported at least three Iranian prisoners of war had been martyred in an Iraqi camp as well as other instances of torture and beating of Iranian PoWs but the organization had not made the reports public.

The statement also said the "inappropriate and incorrect actions" of some ICRC officials in Iran had resulted in problems in PoW camps in Iran because of their "lack of understanding" of the belief and personality of Muslim Iraqi PoWs.

A translation of the foreign ministry statement follows:

"In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful"

"By taking a one-sided and deceptive position (against Iran), the International Committee of the Red Cross has most regrettably officially and openly sided with the camp of the political supporters of the Iraqi regime at a time when Iran has forwarded a resolution to condemn the use of chemical weapons by the Baghdad government.

"Certainly this will be the best and most timely gift given to the Iraqi regime in order to help it justify its lack of response to the request of the United Nations' Secretary General for a ban on the use of chemical weapons. It will also serve to clear the arena so that Iraq could resume its use of this horrible weapon.

"The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran believes it is necessary to clarify a number of points concerning the position stated by the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Iran Always Respected Commitments.

"1--The Islamic Republic of Iran has always stood by its commitments towards the contents of the Geneva convention regarding (war) prisoners and it has treated the prisoners in the best manner based on high Islamic principles and human values, and will continue to do so.

"2--The incident at the Gorgan (PoW) Camp occurred as a result of tensions, clashes and the killing of three prisoners by another group of prisoners. Later, the clashes spread to other areas of the camp and its security, the lives of the prisoners, the guards and the Red Cross representatives came under threat. The intervention of the disciplinary forces eventually restored calm at the camp.

"3--The disciplinary forces initially used tear gas and after efforts failed to break up the clashes, they fired into the air and then fired on the ground with low-velocity bullets.

Events Confirmed by Red Cross

"Although these events were confirmed by the Red Cross representative in official meetings with officials of the foreign ministry, unfortunately they were not reflected in the initial report of the Red Cross and its recent attitude.

"4--The matter of the incident was immediately investigated by the judicial authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its final report is about to be published.

"Testimony and evidence, as well as the confessions of murderers of the three prisoners indicate that some representatives of the Red Cross were effective in creating the tension-charged atmosphere.

"5--Similar inappropriate and incorrect actions by some representatives of the Red Cross in the past led to identical problems in other camps.

"It appears that the lack of understanding of the Red Cross about the personality and Islamic beliefs of (Iraqi) Muslim prisoners has been one of the leading causes for these confrontations.

Abandonment of Neutrality

"However, the recent statement by the president of the ICRC made it clear that the Red Cross has basically abandoned the framework of a neutral international organization and prefers to embroil itself in the international games and political propaganda of various circles.

"6--The Red Cross has never been able to take effective action on the deplorable condition of Iranian prisoners (or war) in Iraq.

"At a time when the Red Cross reports have provided numerous evidences of torture and killings--namely the clash at the Mosul 2 Camp during which at least three Iranian prisoners were murdered--and numerous beatings (of Iranian prisoners), unfortunately such reports have not been made public to the world community.

"The Red Cross has not yet made a strong and comprehensive initiative to condemn these actions and to try to prevent them.

"7--So far several warnings have been issued to the Red Cross for investigating the state of the missing Iranians (in Iraq) who now number more than 20,000.

Tens of Thousands

"In addition, numerous complaints have been made concerning tens of thousands of non-military prisoners and refugees including women, children and old men, and even doctors and medical workers of the (Iranian) Red Crescent who were taken captive by the Iraqi forces during the occupation of Iranian cities.

"Unfortunately, the Red Cross has refused to look into these matters.

"8--It has been a long time since the leaders and members of (Iranian) terrorist groups have been imposing their political and ideological ideas on Iranian prisoners in Iraqi camps and are putting them under severe mental and psychological pressure.

"Unfortunately, instead of paying attention to this matter, (the ICRC) describes the religious activities of Muslim Iraqi prisoners--which is their natural right--as imposing beliefs on the Iraqi prisoners by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

U.N. Chief Invited

"9--Considering the current condition and a lack of investigation into the state of Iranian prisoners in Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran invited the Secretary General of the United Nations to send a mission to look into the condition of the prisoners in Iraq and then in Iran.

"Unfortunately, with Iraq's refusal, the mission's visit was cancelled.

"While it considers the recent Red Cross statement to be a blatant violation of the neutrality of this international organization, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares that the adopting of such methods will not only result in the disrepute of the ICRC, but will also give an opportunity to the aggressor Iraqi regime to continue its pressure on and torture of Iranian prisoners more than before.

"It is obvious that the ICRC will be responsible for all consequences resulting from its recent statement."

Reactions to ICRC Findings

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 25 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] Tehran, Nov 24 (IRNA)--The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Friday implicitly confirmed that a number of Iraqi prisoners of war stationed in one of the camps in Iran have been killed in a clash between them and a number of other Iraqi PoWs, but did not refer to the provocative role of the ICRC's officials in those clashes.

About a month and a half ago, following ICRC measures in collecting some information from Iraqi Ba'athist PoWs which was protested to by other Iraqi PoWs opposing the present Iraqi regime, a clash took place in which a number of Muslim Iraqi PoWs were killed by the Ba'athist PoWs.

Apparently the ICRC officials were collecting the names of Muslim PoWs, who are against the present Iraqi regime, to deliver to Iraq's intelligence agency. This list would enable the Iraqi Ba'athist regime to put the families of those Muslims Iraqi PoWs under pressure.

Meanwhile, the Red Cross in Geneva, through a statement released by the ICRC head, Alexander Hay, made accusations against the Islamic Republic of Iran and allegedly said that the lives of all 50,000 Iraqi PoWs in Iran were at risk.

He added that following the incident at the Gorgan PoW camp, the Iranian officials were imposing stricter control over the activities of the ICRC representatives at PoW camps in Iran.

It is not clear when the envoys started dispatching the lists of Muslim Iraqi PoWs and other espionage information to Iraq, or how many members of the families of those PoWs have so far been pressured or tortured by the Iraqi regime.

CSO: 4600/117

ICRC ASKED TO CORRECT ITS REPORT

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 27 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] TEHRAN, Nov. 26 (IRNA)--The head of the Iranian Red Crescent Society, Vahid Dastgerdi, in a letter to the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Alexander Hay, Monday, said that the ICRC would be responsible for its partial stance towards the Islamic Republic of Iran, concerning the Iraqi PoWs in Iran.

In his letter he said that it was unfortunate that the committee, whose charter demands that it follow humanitarian goals free from biasness, has accused the Islamic Republic of Iran, openly violating the principles of the committee.

"The Iranian Red Crescent Society, while strongly protesting the recent stance of the committee and its silence towards repeated aggression of the Iraqi regime, holds you responsible for the consequences involving the lives of tens of thousand of PoWs, MiAs, and kidnapped civilians, and reminds the committee that it has a duty to guarantee their well-being."

Further on his letter, Dasgerdi said that the unjust and pre-judiced stance of the committee is taken at a time when the Iranian Red Crescent Society, the Iranian people and the Islamic Republic of Iran are greatly concerned about the welfare of the Iranian PoWs. Furthermore, it comes at a time when Iranian officials have made repeated protests to the ICRC on the savage treatment of the Iranian PoWs by the Iraqi regime, also noting no change in this inhuman treatment.

The letter said that the ICRC actions have been unjust and its judgments unfounded. It noted that in light of the ICRC's silence concerning crimes and violations of the Iraqi regime, referred to in confidential and official reports of the committee following visits of its representative to the Iranian PoW's camp, naturally the Iranian government and people come to the conclusion that the ICRC has sided with the Iraqi regime against those afflicted with war, it added.

At the end of the letter, Dastgerdi said that the ICRC president was responsible before God, mankind, history and Iranians afflicted with the Iraqi imposed war to redress this mistake. He also urged the ICRC president not to allow the organization to become a tool in the hands of criminals. The Iranian Red Crescent Society expects the ICRC to correct its report and relate the facts based on justice and ethical, humanitarian values.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DENOUNCES TREATMENT OF IRAQI PRISONERS

Paris LIBERATION in French 3 Dec 84 pp 34, 35

[Article by Patrick Sabatier: "Reeducation: Betray Their Country or Die, the 'Choice' Facing the Iraqi Prisoners of Khomeyni"]

[Text] In its 120 years of existence, this is the first time that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has publicly denounced a state for serious violations of the convention for the protection of prisoners of war. Iran has undertaken an effort to "turn" the Iraqis whom it holds against their country.

Geneva--The date was 10 October 1984. A team of five representatives of the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) entered the camp at Gorgan, a former Iranian Army base, in the center of the city in the northeastern part of Iran, near the shores of the Caspian Sea. Since 1982 3,000 Iraqi soldiers have been held there. The ICRC was visiting these prisoners of war to verify whether the Geneva Convention was being respected. (See below)

When they entered the camp, the ICRC delegates observed that there was extreme tension there. Very quickly, even before they were able to sit down to begin their usual discussions, shouts were exchanged between two groups of prisoners. Then a scuffle took place. Prisoners opposed to the visit by the ICRC clashed with those who wanted to talk to the Red Cross representatives. A general struggle broke out. Some prisoners ran to their barracks and came out armed with clubs and steel bars. The whole camp seemed to have risen in revolt, and the mass of detainees moves toward one of the camp gates. Guns were fired--at first in the air--by the guards who were watching over the camp from their towers.

The members of the Iranian security services, who accompany the ICRC representatives everywhere--and watch them closely--led them toward a gate while tear gas grenades were fired. Other guards had already appeared, opening fire on the mass of prisoners, using special, low velocity bullets which were only (theoretically) supposed to wound them. The ICRC delegates, brought to their hotel, asked about the outcome of the incident. The whole city of Gorgan was aware that something had happened, since the firing had been heard throughout the city. The local Iranian authorities then admitted to them that six of the detainees were killed--three of them as a result of gunshot wounds. Other sources later revealed that there were many wounded--at least 15 of whom had been shot. The ICRC asked to see

these victims. They were shown three dead Iraqi prisoners whose bodies showed the marks of violent blows with blunt instruments. The three other dead had "disappeared."

On 10 October 1984 Iran (which confirmed the fact that the incident had taken place) suspended all activity by the ICRC. The latter organization now has in Tehran only a small team of four persons (compared to a team of 16, assisted by 40 Iranians previously) and speaks of withdrawing from the country completely. The conflict between the humanitarian organization and the Islamic Republic of Iran has turned into a test of force. Iran has accused "certain delegates of the ICRC of having been the cause of the acts of violence." The International Red Cross, to judge from the editorials in the Iranian press recently, is basically nothing more than a nest of satanic imperialists and "Zionists" whose alleged humanitarian activity is a cover for "espionage" and "propaganda" activity. The reaction of the ICRC was unprecedented in the history of this 120 year old organization, which has made discretion and neutrality the instruments of its humanitarian activities, though these have often been challenged. Alexander Hay, its president, called a meeting of ambassadors resident in Geneva on 23 November 1984 and denounced before them "the inadmissible treatment of the Iraqi prisoners of war by Iran. The systematic and repeated Iranian violations are so serious that the ICRC considers that if it does not take exceptional action, its silence would endanger not only the life of tens of thousands of men but even the very future of international humanitarian law."

Between May and October 1984 the ICRC was able to visit nine of these camps, containing 29,000 Iraqi. Since the beginning of the Gulf War it has prepared a list of 45,000 prisoners held in about 15 "official" camps. However, everyone agrees that the real number of Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran is more than 50,000 and may be 60,000. Regarding the camps, there are, in reality, nearly 25 of them. Even now Iran still denies the existence of certain camps and of a large number of prisoners. Nevertheless, their existence has been verified: some prisoners (Iraqi officers in particular) whom Iran denies holding have been shown on Iranian TV. Iran has even turned over to the ICRC mail from certain camps which, according to Tehran, do not exist. Even more absurd, and evidence of the tragedy that goes on at these prisoner of war camps: Iran has communicated to the ICRC lists of Iraqi soldiers "killed in action"--whereas these same men were registered 1 month previously by the ICRC as prisoners in the camps in Iran. According to the Iranian statement, the victims were dead as a result of having their skulls crushed by blunt instruments.

However, the killings and the acts of repression in the camps are only a bloody and visible part of an even more terrible iceberg. Alexander Hay explained to the ambassadors present at the meeting in Geneva on 23 November that this is "the inevitable result of Iranian policy" toward the prisoners. Already in February 1984 the ICRC, in a communique which hardly made any impact at the time, had denounced this policy in the following terms: "Ideological and political pressures, systematic "reeducation" efforts and constant attacks against the honor and dignity of the prisoners are a constant characteristic of life in the Iranian camps. This policy is aimed at forcing the prisoners to choose between treason to their country or death."

Informed sources explain that Iran has reportedly attempted to turn the 50,000 Iraqis it holds into "soldiers" of the Islamic Revolution and shock troops that would be used for battlefield attacks against the "traitor Saddam" (the Iraqi president). A diplomatic source in Geneva explained: "This involves a very important project, which is closely linked to Iranian national defense and which touches the heart of the Islamic revolution, because it must prove that the Islamic revolution has no frontiers. Its application seems to have been decided on by Tebran at the end of 1981." This project has no precedent since Hitler's Germany undertook to "turn" its Russian prisoners of war against the USSR during World War II. This "serious violation" of the Geneva Convention was, moreover, used by the Nuremberg court to demonstrate Nazi "war crimes."

A source well-informed about the Iranian situation explains the operation: "Since the beginning 1982 representatives of the 'Department of Political and Ideological Education,' which is part of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance, appeared in each prisoner of war camp. Most of the time they were accompanied by militants of the Dawa-e-Islami [Guardians of Islam], the Iraqi Islamic party of opposition to the Saddam Hussein regime, which is led by Al Hakim, a Shiite mullah who is a refugee in Iran. These people identify Iraqi Shiite prisoners in each camp (one-third of the Iraqis are Shiites), as well as those who have had to suffer in one way or another under the dictatorial regime in Baghdad. First, these prisoners are offered various privileges--proper clothing, acceptable food, and protection against the abuses of the camp guards. In exchange they are invited to join the Dawa-e-Islami party. Then they are asked to appear on television or speak on the radio to denounce the Iraqi regime and appeal to the Iraqi people to rise up against Saddam. After this they have no hope at all of returning to Iraq. They become sources of political infection in their camps. They are provided with clubs and steel bars and are given the role of convict-guards, exactly like the 'kapos' [trustees] in the German camps."

These "dawa" [guards], who are "real zombies," says a source who was able to visit one camp, are the cause of most of the bloody incidents reported above. They are charged with leading the "takbir" sessions--these pro-Khomeyni meetings of hysteria and collective and public denunciations of the Iraqi regime, regularly organized in the camps (sometimes for the benefit of Western television). They are also used to hamper the activities of the Red Cross by all means possible.

The "dawa," at the moment, only amount to a few thousand. Apparently, no unit of Iraqi oppositionists has so far been committed to action at the front. However, the Iranian media itself reported, at the time of the last Iranian offensive at the beginning of 1984 in the marshy region of Majnoon, on the role played by Iraqis who have "joined" the struggle on the Iranian side. Recently, the highest authorities of the Islamic Republic, on the occasion of "Friday prayers," have increased their appeals to our "Iraqi guests, our brothers" (meaning Iraqi prisoners) to follow the straight path of Islam and take part in the "holy war" against Iraq.

The activity of the "dawa" in the camps has evidently aroused violent reactions from Iraqi "patriots" among the prisoners. In effect the majority of the prisoners above all fear being likened to these "traitors." Some of the prisoners take this view out of fidelity to their military obligations, while others--and they are more numerous--take this view out of the simple fear of what could happen to

their families who are still in Iraq or to themselves whenever peace is signed between Tehran and Baghdad. In effect, we can imagine the future which the Saddam Hussein regime has in mind for those suspected of working for Iran. In many camps Iraqi soldiers have organized themselves to hunt down the "dawa" in a systematic way. Murders have taken place, and the "dawa" in general live in separate sections of the camps. The Iranian authorities, on the contrary, try to make the maximum number of prisoners fear for the future. They even go so far as to force the prisoners, if they want to be able to write to their families at all, to use in their letters terms referring to the glory of the Islamic revolution, while proclaiming their hatred of the Iraqi regime. Once they are suspect in the eyes of Baghdad, they have no other choice than to join the "Islamic revolution." Despite repeated demands by the ICRC to separate the "dawa" and those opposed to them, the Iranian authorities, on the contrary, try to mix the two groups up as much as possible by selective transfers, accepting the calculated risk of seeing a repetition of dramas like the one that happened in the camp at Gorgan.

The most sinister aspect of this situation is that Iran very loudly claims to respect the Geneva Conventions, which it shamelessly violates. In a communique issued by the Iranian Embassy in Geneva on 26 November 1984, one can read: "The Islamic Republic respects to the letter the guarantees provided for by the Geneva Convention" and treats the Iraqi prisoners "as well as possible, according to the noble principles of Islam." The Iranians explain the "departure" of the ICRC by alleging "their lack of understanding of the Islamic, spiritual convictions of the Muslim prisoners of war." The activities of the "dawa," Tehran states, are only reflections of "the natural right of Iraqi Muslim prisoners to exercise their religious convictions." A Western observer recognized that: "The root of the problem is that we are dealing with people who react exactly like Christians of the Middle Ages. We would have had as much difficulty in explaining the Geneva Conventions to members of the Inquisition and to the Spanish conquistadores as to the mullahs of Tehran."

The attempt to "reeducate" the Iraqi prisoners is only the most systematic of the Iranian violations of the Geneva Convention. In Geneva informed sources mention summary executions of prisoners on the battlefield, the abandonment of enemy wounded, the destruction of mail sent by the prisoners to their families through the ICRC, the refusal to provide information on the status of about 20,000 Iraqis who are "missing," discrimination toward Iraqi Christian prisoners (Christians make up about 20 percent of the population of Iraq.), etc. To be fair about it, we should point out that the ICRC has also questioned certain Iraqi practices toward Iranian prisoners (officially 8,000, but in fact probably more than 10,000). Although the Red Cross has declared itself satisfied on the whole with the conditions of detention in the Iraqi camps, it notes that "a substantial number of prisoners, some of them held since the beginning of the conflict, have been hidden from the ICRC, detained in secret and deprived of the most basic rights." In May 1983 the organization denounced "serious violations by both parties (Iran and Iraq), summary executions of captured soldiers, enemy wounded abandoned on the battlefield, indiscriminate bombing of cities and villages." Not to mention the use by the Iraqi Army of chemical weapons, a practice denounced by the United Nations.

A responsible leader of the Red Cross admits: "There is nothing more that we can do." This striking statement by Alexander Hay is aimed, not so much at Tehran as

at the international community which, in dealing with the Gulf War, is giving priority to a combination of strategic and cash register interests. It is no secret to anyone that countries such as the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Great Britain, and Switzerland are carrying on profitable business transactions with Iran. (France is doing the same thing with Iraq.) All these countries are signatories of the Geneva Convention. Article 1 of the convention assigns to them the legal obligation to make sure that the belligerents in an armed conflict respect the convention. The leader of an international organization has said: "What is happening in Iran is a massive, deliberate, systematic and fundamental violation of the laws prepared by humanity to make war a little less barbarous."

The least that the aforementioned countries could do would therefore be, to quote the words of Alexander Hay, "to make the Iranian authorities understand that the international community demands respect for humanitarian laws." For, it is thought in Geneva, there are means in existence of making the mullahs of Teheran understand that it may be dangerous for them to play the role of international 'outlaws.' The stakes in this test of force are nothing less than the survival of the agreements concluded after World War II, which try to reduce barbaric practices in time of war.

The ICRC and the Geneva Conventions

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an independent, international humanitarian organizations founded by Henri Dunant, a Swiss citizen, in 1863. In 1864, at Dunant's instigation, the first convention on the protection of the wounded during a war was signed in Geneva by 14 countries. Other conventions were later signed. The humanitarian law of war is presently defined in the three conventions signed on 12 August 1949 in Geneva by 58 governments and since then ratified by the majority of countries of the world. These conventions deal respectively with the protection of the wounded, with civilian populations, and with prisoners of war.

The Third Geneva Convention (on the protection of prisoners of war) defines the rights of soldiers and officers captured by the enemy. The ICRC is charged with applying various measures of protection (regular visits, confidential meetings, mail, etc). The conflict between the ICRC and Iran turns in particular on Chapter VI, Article 130, of the Third Convention, which terms the following practices as "serious violations": "intentional murder, torture, and inhuman treatment, including biological experiments, deliberately causing major suffering or harming physical integrity or health, forcing a prisoner of war to serve in the armed forces of the enemy power." This last point is very specifically what the ICRC has denounced in Iran.

It is unprecedented that the ICRC has publicly accused a state of "serious violations" of the convention. In this sense the Iranian affair is of unusual seriousness. However, it should be noted that, during many conflicts (as distinguished from the Iran-Iraq War) the belligerents have refused to allow the ICRC to intervene.

Thus, the ICRC was never able to visit prisoner of war camps in Korea [as published] and Vietnam [as published] during the wars in those countries, nor the Japanese camps for prisoners of war during World War II. Furthermore, most

countries do not accept the application of the Geneva Conventions to cases of "civil war" or domestic insurrection, as was the case with France in Algeria in the past or Israel today regarding the occupied territories on the West Bank of the Jordan River.

5170

CSO: 4619/12

IRAN

FOUR-MAN TEAM TO EXAMINE PRISON CONDITIONS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Nov 84 p 22

[Text] On the suggestion of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri and the agreement of the imam, Ayatollahs Gilani, Seyyed Mohammad Abtahi-Kashani, Seyyed Ja'far Karimi-Mazandarani, and Mehdi Qazi-Khorramabadi were selected to examine the issue of prisons and prisoners.

Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Musavi-Bojnordi, member of the Supreme Judicial Council, announced the above statement and in an interview explained the viewpoints of the Supreme Judicial Council concerning investigations and instructions to revise the rulings of the revolution courts, the prisoners of the revolution courts whose terms have ended, the procedures for the implementation of Article 49, the exile of addicts, the situation of prisoners whose cases are unresolved, the procedures for investigating the violations of Shar' magistrates, prison transfers, the lawyers' association, the violations of chief clerks and procedures in the Supreme Courts.

He added: Following the announcement of the imam to the above-mentioned four persons, the Supreme Judicial Council sent a circular letter concerning the announcement to the courts in order for them to provide the necessary cooperation. This committee will send officials to prisons and examine the present situation of the prisoners, and they will place the names of those eligible for pardons on a list to be delivered to the imam. Of course, there is another series of pardons which have been suggested, through the prosecutor, the magistrate or assistant prosecutor, the prison supervisor or, in accordance with certain regulations. For instance, should a person who has served one-third of his sentence and in accordance with some pardon issued on a particular date now be eligible, we send the case with a letter to the chief justice to ensure inclusion in the list of pardons.

The member of the Supreme Judicial Council also said: That group of prisoners of the revolution courts who have been rehabilitated and guided, who have repented, whose release will not threaten our revolutionary Islamic society, and who will not be absorbed by corrupt minigroups, will be released whether or not they have served their full sentence. Therefore, a committee has been appointed by the Supreme Judicial Council to investigate the present condition of the prisoners. This committee investigates about 40 cases per week. A large number of prisoners whose sentences have been completed are not released because their repentance has not been proven to the courts and the revolution prosecutor's offices. In connection with those who have been arrested but whose cases are not settled, he added: Based on the emphatic instructions of the Supreme Judicial Council, the courts are obliged to settle these cases as soon as possible and after issuing bills of indictment, to send their files immediately to the courts. If there is not a case against the person, a ruling of suspension of prosecution must be issued. The courts must act in accordance with Islamic forgiveness and justice in their rulings. Emphasizing the shortage of judicial cadre in the courts, he said: The previous (irresolute) detention period can be a factor in the reduction of the sentence. In other words, if a person deserves a three-year sentence and has served one year without his case having been settled, the court will issue a two-year sentence for him.

In connection with the exile of deviant, vagrant, notorious and experienced addicts to the island, he said: There are various reasons for the problem of narcotics and addiction. For a decisive fight and prevention, it is necessary to take steps on various judicial and executive levels. Essentially, this issue today has a political dimension and in accordance with Article 14 of the Islamic penal code, the courts can send the convicts into exile for a period of time in keeping with their crime.

The member of the Supreme Judicial Council emphasized the unanimous decision of the general committee of the Supreme Court during the period 21 March 1982-20 March 1983 that if an addict is not a vagrant, it is not considered a crime to be an addict and said: No one has the right to misuse this decision of the general committee of the Supreme Court and arrange a gathering place for the use of narcotics, because the establishment of such gatherings is considered a crime, and, essentially, possession of narcotics is a crime. In other words, if a non-vagrant addict possesses narcotics, he will be sentenced for possession, unless it is a very small amount necessary for an addict (for instance, enough for one time).

Ayatollah Musavi-Bojnordi asked the guardians of the accused and the accused themselves to write to the Supreme Judicial Council if they have any objections to the rulings issued in terms of the

punishment being inappropriate to the crime, and mention their reasons in order for the case to be studied by legal councils. If we see that the magistrate has actually committed an error, we will overturn the ruling and write that the case be investigated again and a ruling in accordance with religious and legal regulations will be given.

He added: The issue of appeals in regards to rulings is one of the issues taking up the greatest part of the time of the Supreme Judicial Council. Our whole aim is to implement Islamic laws. An innocent person must not be jailed, even for one hour, or receive one lash. Both in the seminars and in circular letters, we emphatically advise that in the courts of the Islamic Republic of Iran, not one ruling contrary to religious laws must be issued.

For this reason, the training bureau of the Justice Department provides a series of explanatory courses for the clerical brothers who have joined the trenches of the judiciary in the courts and revolution prosecutor's offices because of their interest in serving the revolution and who are not fully familiar with a series of laws. Participation in these courses is compulsory for all of these brothers. Islam is a human-making ideology. The humanity of human beings would not allow a person to have another innocent person jailed. From the economic, spiritual, social, political, and humanitarian points of view, we cannot see an innocent person in prison, even for one minute.

Emphasizing that a good prosecutor, prosecutor's office, or assistant prosecutor is one with fewer prisoners, he said: This does not mean that the courts must be negligent in arresting the accused. A criminal must be arrested and treated in accordance with the regulations. Where suspension of prosecution is required, it must be done immediately. When necessary, the person must be jailed. For instance, he is not permitted to jail anyone in legal and financial matters. Such a person cannot be detained by the prosecutor's office; he must be released immediately on bail. In regards to important problems for which there is no solution, a bill of indictment must be issued immediately and sent to the court.

In regards to advising the magistrates in the courts and revolution prosecutor's offices, he emphasized that all of these honorable people are competent and said: Problems related to these gentlemen differ from court to court, which all stems from the legislative void. The usual procedure is that these gentlemen send the files to me for investigation and decision, and we resolve the problem through cooperation and counsel. In connection with the procedure to investigate ordinary and judiciary violations of the prosecutors, assistant prosecutors, and interrogators of the revolution courts, he said: According

to law, all those who have a judiciary position, if they commit a violation (except for general crimes), their cases are sent to the judges' disciplinary prosecutor's office. If necessary, they issue a bill of indictment and send it to the supreme judges disciplinary court, where a ruling is issued in accordance with the regulations. However, if the violation is a general crime, first the person will be relieved of his duties in the disciplinary prosecutor's office and then the case will be sent to penal court two for investigation.

Concerning the procedure of the work of the high courts, the member of the Supreme Judicial Council said: Four years ago, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri proposed the establishment of this court, which the imam agreed to. It was decided that the Supreme Judicial Council should establish the high court and this court was established with the participation of scholars and religious jurists in Qom theological center.

The system of this court is like the Supreme Court. In other words, as the penal courts do not have the right to issue a series of rulings (execution, 10 years of imprisonment or above, 2 million rials and above in fines, severance of the right hand and the left foot in the case of armed robbery, etc.), penal court one gives its findings and the case goes to the Supreme Court, which reviews it. If it endorses the ruling of penal court one, it dictates the ruling; otherwise, the case is sent to another branch. The same procedure is carried out in the high court. Essentially, when a case is sent to the high court or the select committee of the Supreme Judicial Council, they evaluate the ruling of the magistrate with consideration for the evidence in the case. If it is correct, they approve it and send it to the same branch for a ruling; if there is a problem in the ruling and the primary court agrees with the high court, it issues a ruling under the previous one. However, if it insists, I send the case to another branch for investigation. If the new branch agrees with the high court's opinion, it issues a ruling; otherwise, I return the case to the high court for investigation. If the high court does not agree with the primary court, this case is examined in the general committee of the high court; the opinion of this committee is final and must be carried out.

Concerning the lawyers' association, Ayatollah Musavi-Bojnordi quoted the imam, who said during the period 21 March 1979-20 March 1980: "Remove those who are being nosey in the lawyers' association and dismiss them from the association. Dismiss from the lawyers' association the lawyers who are enemies of Islam or ignorant. Separate from the lawyers' association those few who are the agents of the West and Mohammad-Reza . . ." and said:

According to the single article ratified in the Revolution Council regarding the purging of the association, it was decided

that the supervisory council of the Justice Department--the late Dr Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyni-Beheshti, the oppressed martyr, Ayatollah Seyyed 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili, and Seyyed Hashem Tabataba'i--was to present five persons to purge the association and after six months, for the election of the association to begin. Unfortunately, this did not take place. In a circular letter, the Supreme Judicial Council announced that rulings issued in other than revolution courts, that is, those in disciplinary courts and the lawyers' disciplinary prosecutor's office, are considered null and void.

Mr Bojnordi said: Because the affairs of the lawyers' association have been conferred on me due to the distribution of responsibilities among the members of the Supreme Judicial Council, I appointed Dr Eftekhar Jahromi as the temporary supervisor of the lawyers' association, while he retains his position as the director of the Algerian communique. Also, Dr Eftekhar Jahromi came to one of the sessions of the council and offered the council a bill for the purging of the lawyers' association. After examination and approval, the Supreme Judicial Council sent it to the Majlis as first priority for final discussions and ratification.

Emphasizing that the majority of the lawyers are committed, faithful, religious, virtuous and revolutionary Muslims and that the issue of the lawyers is important in the country, he said:

After the purge of the corrupt and non-committed lawyers is completed, elections will begin, the board of directors will be formed, and then, the head of the association will be appointed.

In continuing this interview with the IRNA, the member of the Judicial Council said: In the elections of the directors of official documents, marriage and divorce offices, which deal with the spiritual and moral issues of the people, we must take much care not to allow unsavory individuals to enter this sacred organization.

He praised the activities of the national inspection organization in regularly sending inspectors to the offices and said: During the time of the tyrant, those who lacked educational and pious requirements received permits to establish a document, marriage and divorce office and stain the name of this sacred organization and now, this group commits violations which are not considered disciplinary violations, but they must be dismissed from this sacred organization.

Pointing out that most of the office directors are virtuous and pious and some are even university professors, he said: To fight this small group, we intend to prepare a single article to purge the office, with the cooperation of the office directors and the

honorable director of the registration organization, and to send it to the Majlis. In connection with the procedure for the implementation of Article 49, which states that the Supreme Judicial Council is responsible for establishing revolution courts in the provincial capitals, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Musavi-Bojnordi emphasized the shortage of the judiciary cadre in all the courts throughout the country and said: In order to implement this important social issue, it has been decided that the court cadre will be completed in six centers, first eliminating their problems and then issuing them judicial authority. Essentially, we are trying to implement this principle throughout the country by completing the judicial cadre, which requires time.

10,000

CSO: 4640/168

65 IRAQIS ASK FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] STOCKHOLM, Nov. 28 (IRNA)--Some 65 Iraqi nationals arrived in southern ports of Sweden through East Germany last weekend and asked for political asylum from Swedish authorities.

According to Swedish newspapers, during the current month alone 225 Iraqis discontented with the Iraqi regime's suppression, have managed to get to East Germany from where they have travelled to the southern Swedish port of Trelleborg by ship and requested political asylum.

The Stockholm daily, Dagens Nyheter in a recent issue reported that in addition to the said number, another 1,500 Iraqis are on their way to Sweden.

The Swedish news agency has reported that in this year alone some 1,800 Iraqis have arrived in Sweden through Trelleborg requesting political asylum. The Swedish police does not send these Iraqis to the countries from where they have entered Sweden, mainly Turkey and East Germany, for fear that these countries will deport them back to their own country.

The Swedish media have not carried any interviews with the increasing number of the Iraqis who are fleeing Iraq. Therefore, the true nature of the Iraqi regime has not been disclosed to the Swedish public. On the contrary, the Swedish media has played up any report related to arrival of a few Iranian counter-revolutionaries.

CSO: 4600/129

IRAQ REPORTEDLY HOLDING 20,000 UNREGISTERED IRANIANS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 28 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] TEHRAN, Nov. 27 (IRNA)--According to existing statistics, there are over 7,500 Iranian PoWs in Iraq. Also there are about 20,000 Iranians missing in Iraq, most of whom are believed to be among the unregistered captives.

Announcing this, members of the Committee Supporting Iranian Prisoners of War said in a televised press conference Tuesday that most PoWs and captives had been identified through radio messages from Baghdad Radio. Iraqi newspapers, as well as information from released Iranian prisoners.

One of the committee members, Dr. Sadr, said reports on torture, abuse or martyrdom of Iranian prisoners were not usually published in Iran in order that relatives in other captives would not become worried.

Sadr said that due to the Iranian pressures to identify the undeclared Iranian prisoners, the Iraqi regime has started a propaganda campaign, alleging that there are Iraqi prisoners in Iran who have not been visited by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

He categorically denied such allegations as baseless.

He said there are about 50,000 Iraqi prisoners in Iran, all of whom have been registered by the ICRC and have contacts with their families through letters.

The committee members called on international organizations and the people of the world to act to prevent Iraqi violations against Iranian PoWs.

They reminded the ICRC of its duty to be impartial in its activities. A statement issued by the ICRC chief attacking the Islamic Republic of Iran discarded the principle of neutrality and ignored major Iraqi violations.

The committee was formed more than a year ago and is composed of representatives from Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, the army, prime ministry, foreign ministry, interior ministry, War Information Headquarters, Maryrs Foundation and Red Crescent Society.

EXPANSION UNDERWAY FOR NEKA CEMENT FACTORY, DASHT-E NAZ AIRPORT

Tehran BURS in Persian 11 Oct 84 p 5

/Text/ As the second production line at the Neka Cement Factory, with a 2,000 ton capacity, goes into operation, the factory's daily production will reach 4,000 tons, thereby supplying Mazandaran Province's cement needs and increasing the nation's cement production. According to an IRNA report, the Mazandaran governor general convened a session of the Mazandaran Province's Administrative Council yesterday morning. The session, attended by Ayatollah Javadi-Amoli, a member of the Council of Guardians, and all Mazandaran Province's general directors and executive officials, was held in the governor general's building. Pointing to his meeting yesterday with the prime minister and the chief justice of the Supreme Court, he announced: During the meeting, in addition to the matter mentioned above, several other fundamental points relating to important economic and social issues in Mazandaran Province met with the approval of Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

He added: One of these issues (the expansion of the Dasht-e Naz Airport in Sari and its utilization for public traffic) was the use of part of some farmland in Sari's Dasht-e Naz that belongs to the Mazandaran Province Martyrs Foundation. The extent of the landing strip and the enclosure of the airport will soon be expanded.

Mazandaran's governor general also announced that the prime minister had agreed to the free purchase of rice by the private sector, and added: During the current growing season the area cultivating Amol 2 and 3 type rice grew to 70,000 hectares in order to attain economic self-sufficiency and due to the government's support and encouragement. Thus it is probable that with the responsibility for purchasing and distributing rice turned over to the private sector, the region's farmers will encounter trouble selling their own production. Therefore through the good offices of the prime minister, the necessary actions will be taken for the government to undertake purchase of Amol type 2 and 3 rice.

According to the report on the Mazandaran Province Administrative Council meeting, the province's administrative political deputy pointed out that rice production is 40 percent greater this year than last, and said: Last year, in addition to the prohibition of exporting barley from the province, the province also imported 20,000 tons of barley. However, during the current year, Mazandaran Province officially sent 48,000 tons of barley to other provinces.

The Mazandaran Province administrative political deputy then stressed the efforts of concerned officials to promote the sowing of the high-yield Kaveh and Alborz wheat which brought about a rise in Mazandaran Province's wheat production this year, and stated: About 30,000 hectares of rice paddy land in Amol, Babol and Sari were allocated to supply the region's fodder needs. For this reason 10 units of fodder-drying equipment will be experimentally operated to dry out the produce from these farms.

9597

CSO: 4640/118

LEAD CONDENSATION FACTORY OUTPUT OVER 150 TONS MONTHLY

Tehran BURS in Persian 11 Oct 84 p 5

/Text/ Three new veins have been discovered at the 200-meter depth of the Nakhalak lead mine, the country's largest lead mine. This brings the number of economically exploitable veins at this depth, considered the mine's fifth layer, to 12. According to the report by IRNA's correspondent, Iranian experts discovered the three new veins during the current year, and that the other nine were discovered at the same level after the victory of the Islamic revolution.

A mine official, making this announcement, pointed to the actions taken to put three new workshops into operation to extract lead from the veins so far discovered, and said: These workshops will go into operation during the next year, and when they do earth containing both lead and silver will be transferred to the mine's concentration factory.

The Nakhalak Mine lead concentration factory, which was repaired and rebuilt this year by its committed employees, produces more than 150 tons of concentrated lead monthly. It transforms mixed ore of 6 to 7 percent purity by concentration into lead ore of 60 percent purity containing 600 to 700 grams of silver per ton. The same official added: Other than the concentration plant in operation at the Nakhalak lead mine, the mine also has sluice-ways which can be used to wash the mixed ore. At the same time, the mine's ore is brought out and transported to the concentration plant by means of salt water and loco-tractors. The mine is made up of five levels, ranging from 50 to 200 meters in depth.

The mine, which employs 345 persons, has begun operations to discover soft material at the 240-meter depth. It is predicted that lead-silver reserves will be found at this depth during the next year.

The Nakhlak lead mine is located 130 km to the northeast of Na'in, and its five levels contain more than 50 km of tunnels. The discovery of the new veins will add to this length upon extraction. These tunnels consist of large horizontal and vertical ones, while tunnels following veins run east and west.

9597

CSO: 4640/118

ADDICTS' REHABILITATION CONSIDERED MAIN DIFFICULTY

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 3 Dec 84 p 22

[Text] The recent activities of the 10 teams of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department, the discovery of an active narcotics smuggling ring, and the arrest of its members were explained yesterday morning in a session with the officials of the anti-narcotics team of this office and the correspondents of the mass media.

In this session, which took place with the head of the ideological-political division of this office, the supervisor of the teams of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department explained the recent activities of his teams.

In the beginning of the session, Colonel Moshafi, the director of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department, explained the recent activities of this office. Referring to the discovery of an active smuggling ring in Tehran, he said: Four armed members of this ring were arrested, one was killed, and 9.1 kg of heroin were discovered on them.

In the continuation of the session, Captain Karampur, the head of the sixth team of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department, explained about the discovery of this ring: For a long time, we have been receiving information indicating that a number of smugglers were importing narcotics from Afghanistan and after hiding them around Taybad, Mashhad, and finding customers in Tehran, they were distributing them in Tehran.

In the course of the past month, the activities of the agents of this office to penetrate this ring achieved results, and a few days ago, we began transactions with them. In this connection, they were going to sell us heroin at 2,300 rials per kg.

During the transactions with them, a group of four people, they tried to escape. After an exchange of fire, one of them, by the

name of Mohammad Shah Saqzehi, was killed in front of hospital no 2 on the Karaj road and three others, named 'Abdollah, Musa, and Anbia', were arrested. Unfortunately, two of them had used Afghan Mojahedin identity cards to pass themselves off as Mojahedin. Those arrested confessed that they had hidden narcotics in the Taybad Mountains and that the leader of the ring, Habibollah, lived there. The officials were sent there, the narcotics were removed, and Habibollah was arrested.

It should be pointed out that one of those arrested, 'Abdollah, was the godson of Habibollah.

Captain Karampur added: Habibollah had been sentenced to 15 years in jail and had been freed after 2 1/2 years of imprisonment.

He confessed that before being arrested he had engaged in smuggling narcotics into Iran several times.

The head of the sixth team of this office then referred to the discovery of 231 kg of hashish belonging to the members of the ring and explained: Some time ago, we succeeded in infiltrating a ring and agreed to purchase 10 kg of hashish. The members of the ring were arrested and interrogated in the office. In the course of the interrogation, one of the accused, who we knew lived in a hotel in Tehran, told us that he lived in the provinces. For this reason, his room at the hotel was searched, where a parking slip for a trailer was discovered. He claimed that he knew nothing about it. Finally, the trailer was also searched and 221 kg of hashish, which was very skillfully hidden in a compartment, was discovered.

The Fifth Team

In the continuation of the session, the head of the fifth team of this office explained the recent activities of the officials in discovering several active rings for distributing narcotics, which they brought to Tehran directly from Zahedan, and said: On 23 October 1984, 140 grams of heroin were discovered on two persons by the names of Mohammad Reza and Majid, who are not addicts themselves.

Also, two engineers involved in distributing narcotics with the help of a person in Rasht have also been arrested. They used a government vehicle to carry out their purpose in order to avoid suspicion. Half a kg of heroin belonging to them was discovered in a hidden compartment in a Peykan.

In addition, the agents of this team, with the arrest of two persons by the name of 'Ali Khatti and Manuchehr, succeeded in destroying a narcotics distribution ring in the southern part of

Tehran and discovering 125 grams of heroin belonging to them; they are not addicts themselves. Those arrested used a Toyota to smuggle narcotics and had a very neat appearance.

In the continuation of this session, other heads of teams of this office also explained the activities of their agents, which, due to the shortage of space and the accumulation of issues, will be published on a daily basis on the events section of KEYHAN.

After the explanation of activities, Colonel Moshafi, the director of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department, explained: At the present time, with the persistent activities of the officials of the Police Department, the gendarmerie, and the committees, the smuggling of narcotics has decreased significantly throughout the country.

In connection with the future programs of the government to fight narcotics smuggling, he added: In this connection, the government has extensive programs throughout the country to fight narcotics through the headquarters for fighting smuggling and narcotics of the Ministry of the Interior. In this connection, with the establishment and strengthening of the border regiments and guard stations, the entry of smuggled narcotics across the borders is prevented, and for this reason, also, the price of narcotics has increased throughout the country.

He then referred to the cooperation and efforts of the judicial authorities in this area and said: The decisiveness and interest of the judicial authorities and their sincere cooperation has been a factor in the success of the law enforcement officials. The conviction rate of experienced smugglers this year has been excellent.

He added: The Shirin No Island, "addicts island," program for sending experienced smugglers and vagrant addicts into exile has been very successful.

He stressed: All of those steps may prevent narcotics smuggling, but our essential problem is the rehabilitation of addicts. The welfare office must provide the necessary facilities for them to recover from their addiction by creating more of these centers. In this connection, certain promises have been made. Of course, at the present time, rehabilitation centers have been created in Shurabad of Qom, Varamin, and other provincial capitals, but they must increase.

Referring to the relations between supply and demand in the case of narcotics and stressing the decrease in the supply of narcotics, he said: Unfortunately, demand for narcotics has not decreased, but has increased. In our opinion, the addicts are not guilty but ill and must be cured and rehabilitated.

In the continuation of this session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Gharavi, the head of the ideological-political division of the anti-narcotics office of the Police Department, explained in detail the social background of narcotics addiction and said in regards to success in fighting narcotics: In this connection, the mass media must engage in extensive propaganda. Preparing articles on the lives of addicts and finding the roots and the ways they become addicts can be effective.

In offices as well, severe control should be maintained over individuals so that if an employee is suspected, he should be tested immediately and dismissed.

On the other hand, the shortage of recreational facilities also contributes to the causes. At the present time, the existence of the Shirudi Sports Stadium alone in Tehran for a population of 9 million is insufficient, and this itself causes the young people to become addicts. Another important problem is unemployment, which is the cause of addiction, smuggling, and many other deviations.

Another very important factor is the existence of economic poverty in our society. Continuing his statements, he stressed cultural activities in this connection and said: The mass media must be very active in identifying the personality of addicts.

He emphasized: Of course, we know that the problems cannot be solved overnight. We suffer these problems at the present time because of the particular war conditions with which the revolution is confronted and we hope, God willing, that these problems will be resolved.

10,000
CSO: 4640/169

MONTAZERI CALLS FOR PROPER CONDUCT WITH TRAVELERS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 1 Dec 84 p 25

[Text] Qom. Hojjat ol-Eslams Iravani and Jalali, members of the combative clerics of Tehran, met and spoke with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. In this meeting, a report on the combative clergy and the affairs concerning propaganda, mosques, and religious schools was presented to him. Then he said: As I have said earlier, it is not proper for mosques to be turned into places for the sale and distribution of goods. This is not proper for our mosques and religious schools. Mosques and religious schools must be used as they were intended by the sacred religion. Besides the fact that other affairs and uses of mosques are improper with regard to mosques and religious schools, if they disturb worshipping, prayers, propagation, teachings, and studying in schools, they are not permitted from a religious standpoint.

Also, in regards to the number of small mosques in one area or location, he said: It is not a good practice to build and endow several small, unusable mosques in one alley or location. Instead, it would be more in keeping with the instructions of the sacred religion and the person who has given the endowment for more attention to be paid to large mosques in an area in accordance with the needs of the inhabitants. According to this report, also, the officials of various parts of customs and the Tehran Airport met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. After praising them for their efforts, he spoke in detail about the situation with regard to the customs and the expectations of the people and the revolution with regard to their authorities and their sensitive positions. In this connection, he stressed: It is true that the traffic, entry and exit of goods, and currency of the country must be controlled and counterrevolutionaries and smugglers must be watched, but we must also pay attention to the preservation of Islamic values, and the observance of humane conduct is most important to us.

Anyone who comes from abroad first sees the airports and customs of the country. The prestige of the revolution and the Islamic Republic depends on the behavior of the officials towards the

people in the airports. Many of the extreme and uncontrolled actions, which might even be done with good intentions and with the purpose of serving the revolution, in practice, might be even more harmful than the actions of the counterrevolutionaries. Hence, while praising and thanking the brother officials in the customs and Tehran Airport, I will remind them to watch carefully their conduct towards the passengers who come to or leave the country.

While observing the rules and controlling the entry and exits or in minor affairs that would not harm the revolution and the people, do not treat the people with narrow-mindedness. The prestige of the revolution, the government, and even the grand leader is entrusted to you. Strive to preserve it. May God approve of you.

10,000
CSO: 4640/166

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETS IN INDIA

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Nov 84 p 3

[Text] The general director for economic affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrived in New Delhi yesterday at the head of an economic delegation to participate in the second joint committee of the two countries.

There are representatives from the Ministries of Commerce, Petroleum, Industries and Agriculture, the Central Bank, and the organization for the expansion of industries in this delegation.

The talks of both parties will begin in various trade, technical, industrial, scientific and cultural committees and will last for four days.

The purpose of the second session of the joint Iran-India economic committee is to study and make decisions concerning the results of the first joint committee of the two countries during last year's visit by Narasimah Rao, the foreign minister of India at the time, to Iran.

The negotiations of the delegations of the two countries in the committee sessions will be devoted mostly to bilateral cooperation in economic areas, such as Indian industrial and agricultural exports to Iran, cultural exchanges, and other issues of interest to both countries.

Last year, Indian exports to Iran amounted to \$75 million. After the visit of the commerce minister of our country to India, certain agreements were made to increase the volume of Indian exports to Iran, this year to \$225 million, that is, threefold.

At the present time, the annual volume of Iranian exports to India, which consist essentially of crude oil, is nearly \$1 billion. In their talks with the Iranian authorities, the Indian officials will try to establish a balance in their trade relations with Iran.

Dr Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, will arrive in New Delhi today to participate in the joint committee of the two countries and also for discussions with high ranking officials of India, including Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister of that country.

IRAN

IRANIAN JOURNALISTS CONDEMN INTERNATIONAL NEWS FEDERATION

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Nov 84 p 3

[Text] Iranian journalists issued a statement condemning the intention of the International News Federation to hold its next convention in Jerusalem. The Iranian journalists also called this move an effort to use the journalists to officially recognize the occupying Zionist regime.

The text of the joint statement of the Iranian journalists is as follows: In the name of God, the most compassionate and merciful: The International News Federation intends to hold its next convention in Jerusalem. This move is an effort to use reporters to bring about official recognition of the occupying Zionist regime. This move clearly indicates that the rights of the oppressed people of Palestine are only winked at.

In addition to the choice of Jerusalem as the site of the convention, the identity of professional members of this federation is worth thinking deeply about. These journalists, due to their work situations and direct links with news agencies, are in the midst of all the open and secret crimes and savage actions of the Tel Aviv regime. This federation undoubtedly is well aware of the role of the Zionists in stirring the fires of numerous wars, of their fascist nature and their criminal behavior, which for years has influenced the Middle East and world public opinion.

The occupation of Palestine today is an obvious and undeniable fact. This subject has been discussed for years in all sessions of international and regional meetings, and efforts to find a way to end this situation have become part of the agenda of these sessions. The archives of these organizations are full of documents, minutes of meetings, suggestions, and communiques in this regard. But most of these actions have been neutralized by the direct interference and action of the United States or have been inconclusive.

The land of Lebanon is still under the military occupation of Israel and is burned by the fire of Zionist aggressors. Under these conditions, to hold the convention of the International News Federation in any part of occupied Palestine is an indication that the federation and its members have become puppets in this situation to help achieve official recognition of the sovereignty of the aggressor Zionist regime. Therefore, to select Jerusalem as the site of the convention will have an added dimension and multiple

repercussions. Since Jerusalem is considered the first Kibbeh for Muslims, it is viewed as Islamic land. One billion Muslims throughout the world give attention to Jerusalem and Jerusalem has a special sanctity for them. Jerusalem is a part of the occupied land of Palestine, where Zionists have become sovereign by using terrorist methods, intimidation, aggression, and massacre and have been under the direct protection of the United States. With regard to the facts referred to, these questions are placed before the participants of this convention: In a situation where even America the great protector of the Zionist regime is afraid to transfer its embassy to Jerusalem, what is the reason for holding this convention in Quds? Does not the holding of this convention in Quds confirm the onesided efforts of the Zionists regime to have its aggressive sovereignty over this holy city officially recognized? Have the participants of this convention thought about how the prestige of the world's journalists could be blemished? Is the holding of this convention in Quds not clear proof of the belief that Zionism has a octopus-like domination over the world mass media? Can the participants in this convention forget the shocking crimes of the Zionist regime in the occupied land, especially in Dirijasin, Kafr Qasem, Sabra, Shatilla, and southern Lebanon?

We Iranian journalists join Islamic societies and the world's oppressed to condemn this action and warn that:

1. Participation in this session is disgraceful and contrary to the feelings of 1 billion of the world's Muslims and will not occur without reaction.
2. The participants in this convention will open the way to a series of actions that will take place after the conclusion of the convention to confirm and centralize the usurper regime in occupied Quds.
3. In the event that this convention is held, the Zionist regime will succeed more than ever in its efforts to create an unbridgeable gap between journalists and the world's peoples.

We journalists of Iran strongly request all free-thinking world reporters, writers, cultural organs and independent organizations to use all their efforts to stop this convention from being held in Jerusalem and put all their information in this regard at the disposal of our people, in the hope that the day will come when publication of the truth will culminate in the expansion of public information and consequently the annihilation of the Zionist regime.

With praise for Imam Khomeyni, standard bearer of the orthodox campaign against Israel.

9815

CSO: 4640/124

IRAN

MUSAVI SEES PROJECT FAILURE IF SOCIAL PRIORITIES IGNORED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 1 Dec 84 p 3

[Text] In a meeting with the employees of the Plan and Budget Organization on Thursday morning, the prime minister said: Inattention to the needs and priorities which stem from the value system governing the Islamic society will result in the failure of all our economic, cultural and social programs.

In this meeting, first Mohammad Taqi Banki, the minister without portfolio and head of the Plan and Budget Organization, presented a report concerning the activities of the employees and experts of this organization and praised them for their efforts which resulted in the presentation to the Majlis of the budget bill for the period 21 March 1985-20 March 1986 on time. He also explained the history of the activities of this organization after the victory of the Islamic revolution.

Then Engineer Musavi, referring to the necessity and importance of planning in the country to advance the Islamic Republic in all areas, said: Inattention to the needs and priorities which stem from the value system governing our Islamic society will result in the failure of all our economic, cultural and social programs. Scientific gatherings and the Plan and Budget Organization are the best places to understand this issue. The secret of our victory is in conformity to the value system in all areas.

Engineer Musavi referred to the effects of the regulations pertaining to the important issues of the country in forming the future economy of the Islamic Republic, which must be a model for the world, pointed to the necessity of evaluating these regulations before they are ratified by the Plan and Budget Organization, and said: Constant critical study and expert work by you brothers and sisters can provide correct pictures of the economic, cultural and social relations of our society, which are within the framework of the sacred Islamic laws.

The prime minister said: The domain of the activities of the Plan and Budget Organization is very vast, but you must not be satisfied merely with offering the budget bill on time, although this in itself is a great accomplishment for you.

He added: The issue of relations and understanding the problems of the executive organizations on the part of various related units of the Plan and Budget Organization is of special importance. If, for instance, the Ministry of Health feels that the concerned division of the Plan and Budget Organization is not ratifying the plans and budgets of the Ministry of Health is not merely concerned with figures and numbers, but is rather like a physician who suffers the ailments in expressing the ill health of a deprived area, he will undoubtedly begin to believe in mutual understanding. This would mean solving problems which in the first place seem insoluble.

Engineer Musavi considered the understanding of the changes in the society in the short run as necessary and pointed out: Given a society like ours, which is confronted with all sorts of conspiracies of global oppression, if it is unable to go beyond thinking about and paying attention to its own affairs, you brothers and sisters who are the planners of this society will be unable to show that you are sensitive to the problems of the society and to offer programs. Then you will be turned into a simple cog in a great machine.

Referring to the necessity of the existence and strengthening of a supervision system in the Plan and Budget Organization, Engineer Musavi added: In addition to the cooperation that exists between your organization and the executive organizations of the country, the more attention is paid to mechanisms that will transmit necessary information and ongoing operations on time so that rapid decisions can be made in regards to them, the more we can say that service to the regime of the Islamic Republic has been achieved in the organization, and this can be effective in the expansion of the regime in all its dimensions.

At the end of this meeting, Dr Banki thanked Mazaheri, who has recently been appointed by the prime minister as the head of the Foundation for the Oppressed, for his undaunted efforts.

The prime minister praised the efforts of Mazaheri and expressed hope that while heading the Foundation for the Oppressed, he will continue his cooperation with the Plan and Budget Organization and that in the mean time, arrangements will be made, with a devised program, for the activities of the Foundation for the Oppressed to be supervised by the Plan and Budget Organization and for the reports of this supervision to be presented to the prime minister and the head of the Foundation for the Oppressed.

DISTRIBUTION RATE OF PETROLEUM BYPRODUCTS INCREASES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Nov 84 p 22

/Interview with Eng Handollah Mohammadnezhad, date and place not specified/

/Text/ At the present the distribution level of petroleum byproducts domestically is 110 million liters daily, which shows an increase relative to the daily rate of 75 million liters in the 1978-1979 year. The storage of petroleum byproduct reserves, particularly white gasoline, is also in a better state in the first 6 months of the current year compared to the 2 previous years. In fact, 85 percent of reserve storage has been completed in the city-regions and villages during the current year.

The consumption of gasoline during the March 1983-March 1984 year was about 16 million liters daily, while it has increased to an average of 17 million liters during the first half of the current year.

In a press conference, Eng Hamdollah Mohammadnezhad, director of byproduct, pipeline, and communication affairs of the Ministry of petroleum announced the facts above and spoke about the level of daily consumption of petroleum byproducts, the distribution level of these byproducts last year, and other actions and responsibilities of the directorate.

Regarding the consumption and distribution level of petroleum byproducts domestically, he said: During the period from March 1981 to March 1983, when gasoline was rationed, the average daily consumption of gasoline was 12 million liters nationwide. At the present this figure averages about 17 million liters, without rationing. In addition, the distribution of white gasoline, which ran at about 16 million liters daily prior to the Islamic revolution, has risen to 23 million liters.

The domestic consumption of diesel fuel is 39 million liters a day. Consumption breaks down as follows: 35 percent in the agricultural sector, 35 percent in transportation, 25 percent for the industrial sector and power plants, and 5 percent in homes and for heating purposes. The level of consumption prior to the Islamic revolution was 24 million liters. Furthermore, the consumption of heating oil, which is used principally in power plants, brick ovens and public baths, runs at 29 million liters daily.

Distribution Level of Various Petroleum Products

He continued: At the present the country's refineries receive 700,000 barrels, from which 87 million liters of petroleum byproducts are produced.

Concerning the level of distribution of various petroleum byproducts in Tehran during the current year, the director of the byproducts section of the Ministry of Petroleum said: The section has planned for a total of 8 billion liters of white gasoline to be distributed in Tehran during the current year, of which 3.5 billion liters have been distributed so far. The remaining 4.5 billion liters will be distributed during the next 5 months.

He added: The reserve storage of white gasoline, oil and gas is in good shape at the present, and 85 percent of the country's necessary reserves for the winter have been stored, particularly in the rural areas.

He said: From the beginning of this year we have been carrying out a plan to store petroleum byproducts, particularly white gasoline, in order to supply the needs of hard-to-reach areas during the winter. The major portion of them are being kept in NIOC distribution tanks, so that all the country's regions will be supplied during the cold season.

Pipelines Engaged in Transporting Petroleum Byproducts

He mentioned the important pipelines carrying petroleum byproducts as follows: The 22-inch Shahrud-Mashhad pipeline, the 18-inch Tehran-Esfahan line, the 10-inch Rey-Tabriz line, the 16-inch Rey-Sari line, the 18-inch Esfahan-Kerman line, and the 18-inch 'Aliabad-Gonbad line. In addition, several new pipelines will go into operation in the future, including the Arak-Hamadan line.

He added: At the present a nationwide total of 2,800 km of pipeline transport petroleum byproducts.

Concerning the method of rationing of byproducts, he said: In various parts of the country special standards are taken into consideration, such as the urban and rural population and the climatic conditions. In addition, the country's provinces are divided into three regions, cold, moderate and warm. Fifty percent are cold, 40 percent are moderate, and 10 percent warm.

The rationing level for white gasoline this year will be the same as last year's. Only the average distribution of diesel fuel will increase from 38 million liters a day last year to 40 million this year. The increase will be used in the agricultural and transportation sectors.

Concerning supplying the needs of the fronts of the imposed war, the director of distribution for the Ministry of Petroleum said: The Ministry of Petroleum has a special staff which informs the distribution units of the needs at the fronts, and petroleum is transported to the fronts in the shortest time possible.

For the first half of this year, last year, and the years before that, there have been no problems in supplying the fuel needs of Islam's combatants.

In conclusion he asked the martyr-nourishing nation to call the following telephone numbers to report any of their problems or suggestions regarding the distribution of petroleum byproducts: 673001-9 for advice; 753217 for complaints; 759519 for the distribution unit; and 355-4626 for rationing matters.

9597

CSO: 4640/125

IRAN

REFINERY CAPACITY REPORTEDLY REACHES 254,000 BARRELS DAILY

Tehran BURS in Persian 17 Oct 84 p 2

/Interview with Vosuqzadeh, Tehran Refinery head; date and place not specified/

/Text/ By implementing a new plan at the Tehran Refinery and carrying out some physical alterations on one of the units there, about 20,000 more barrels of crude oil can be cracked and refined daily. This has increased production of some petroleum products in Iran.

In an exclusive interview with an IRNA reporter, Eng Vosuqzadeh, chief of the Tehran Refinery, announced these facts and explained the characteristics and merits of the plan.

He said at first: We wanted to eliminate the bottlenecks of fuel oil shortages and also increase the capacity of cracking and refining in the Tehran Refinery. To this end the hardworking and dedicated experts and engineers at the Tehran Refinery carried out physical alterations in the design of Unit No 10 at the refinery to bring down its costs. Last week, for the first time in NIOC history, they were able to bring the unit's capacity up to 20,000 barrels of day. These barrels can then be cracked and refined.

He added: The unit's daily production, after cracking and refining stages, consists of 3,000 barrels of gasoline which are absorbed in gasoline production, and 17,000 barrels of fuel oil.

At the same time, although the amount of fuel oil at the refinery has increased, white gasoline production will drop about 2,000 barrels a day due to injecting white gasoline into the fuel oil to lower its cost.

Eng Vosuqzadeh also said: Implementation of the aforementioned plan will help the Tehran Refinery annually provide to consumers about 5.61 million more barrels of fuel oil, equivalent to 88.15 million liters.

He stated in conclusion that Tehran Refinery has the capacity to refine 254,000 barrels of crude oil daily, and said: This refining power is unprecedented in the history of Tehran's refining complex.

9597

CSO: 4640/125

PAKISTANI DAILY APOLOGIZES FOR 'MISQUOTING' KHAMENE'I

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 19 Nov 84 p 2

[Text]

ISLAMABAD (IRNA)— The Editor-in-Chief of the Urdu language Pakistani daily "Jang" apologized to Iranian officials and protesting Moslems in that country on "deviated statements" quoting Iran's President Ali Khamenei.

The paper had recently printed false statements allegedly attributed to President Khamenei on the mourning ceremonies for Ashura, the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (AS), (the Third Imam of the Household of Prophet Mohammad (S).

In the apology, printed in Saturday's issue of the paper, it was said that the translator of the news, who had translated it from an English daily, "will be interrogated."

The publishing of the report by most Pakistani press, quoting the English daily "Muslim", entailed the protest of Moslem people in Pakistan.

Also, a report from Islamabad said Hojjatoleslam Seyyed Eftekhar Hussein, Head of

Imam Khomeini School in Punjab (Pakistan), who is also in charge of "the movement for the implementation of Shi'ite principles" there, urged Moslems to put aside their differences, IRNA reported from Islamabad.

In a press conference on Friday, Hojjatoleslam Eftekhar Hussein warned "secessionist elements and enemies of Islam" to abandon provocative measures aimed at sowing discord, IRNA reported yesterday.

Meanwhile, a two-day seminar to study various aspects of Hajj rituals was opened in Islamabad Sunday with the participation of 250 representatives of different countries.

During the seminar which was sponsored by Pakistan's "Ministry of Religious and Minorities Affairs," problems of Moslems in connection with Hajj rituals were to be discussed and the participants were to present proposals to the meeting.

CSO: 4600/132

REPORTEDLY 15,000 KILOMETERS OF RURAL ROADS CONSTRUCTED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Nov 84 p 22

[Interview with Eng Mehdi Tafzali, date and place not specified]

[Text] The bureaus of roads under the Ministry of Roads and Transport possess notable capabilities, and if they are given sufficient credits, will be able to answer the road construction needs in various points of the country, particularly in the area of secondary rural roads, upgrading and asphaltting.

In an interview with KEYHAN, Eng Mehdi Tafzali, deputy minister for city-region affairs, road maintenance and road construction, made the above statement and explained the ministry's activities in the areas of road construction, upgrading, security on the roads, and the construction of border roads.

At the beginning, concerning the action taken by the city-region roads administration, he said: Prior to the revolution, contractors performed road construction, and the city-region roads administration did not have much of a role in road building. However, after the revolution's victory, due to the country's road construction needs, particularly in the rural and deprived areas, the city-region bureaus began road construction work. Praise God, they had notable activity in rural road construction, and a great many roads were built in this way. Unfortunately however, due to a shortage of equipment, they were not able to answer all of the people's needs. In fact, a large portion of the credits allocated to them for road construction were spent for the rental of equipment, and on the whole, the physical yield from the work was not good. To eliminate this problem, actions were taken in early 1981 to eliminate this equipment shortage. By allocating the necessary credits, by March 1984 about 3,300 items of road construction equipment, such as bulldozers, loaders, graders, rollers and other types had been allotted to road bureaus across the country. This had a very significant role in increasing the work capacity of the bureaus of roads, such that these offices absorbed 35.5 billion rials in credits from March 1983 to March 1984. This showed a 26 percent increase in absorbed credits compared to March 1981 to March 1982. This was about 99 percent of their approved credits, while at the same time many of the bureaus' road construction and improvement projects were practically halted during the third 3-month period of the year due to a shortage of credits. Compared to the past 3 years the bureaus of roads possess a notable work capacity, and if they are allocated sufficient credits, they can answer the country's road construction needs in various places, particularly in the area of rural and secondary roads, road improvements and asphaltting.

In regard to the level of rural road construction, and the credits given to the bureau of roads, he said: Since the revolution's victory, we have built 15,000 kilometers of rural roads which are now in use. Also, at the present time these bureaus have another 10,000 kilometers under construction, with this caveat that the bureaus have received no credits for building new rural roads since March 1984. Of course, in light of the deprivation that our country suffers in the road area and the work capacity that our bureaus possess, if a portion of the credits of the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade for rural roads were placed at the disposal of the road bureaus, they can be more active than before in rural road construction. Credits to bureaus of roads for the March 1984-March 1985 year were about 33.3 billion credits. This was about 43 percent of the total credits of the Ministry of Roads in the road construction and improvement area. This bespeaks the capacity of our road bureaus in the provinces. At the same time, these bureaus had an active role in dispatching road construction crews to the border and war areas, both in the west and south. We hope that these activities will continue on a broader scale.

Concerning actions taken towards safety on the nation's roads and towards preventing probable accidents, the deputy minister of roads said: According to statistics received from the highway police on highway accidents, during the March 1983 to March 1984 year there were about 330,000 accidents on the nation's roads, from which 27 murders resulted. We who are responsible for the country's roads and their safety mention these figures with extreme sorrow. In spring 1982 we promulgated a nationwide road safety crusade to the central bureaus of roads because of this issue's importance. The bureaus mobilized all their resources for this task and took effective steps, such as putting up horizontal and vertical signs, painting lanes, and improving curves and steep hills. Of course this does not mean that the country's road cannot be refined. However, you must consider that this matter was going towards oblivion after the revolution, yet we have designated this as a religious duty throughout our bureaus. At the present time a great many flaws are not due to official inattention, but to the fact that the sections that can eliminate them are facing a shortage of funds. We are pursuing this road safety crusade in the March 1984-March 1985 year, and our bureaus are actively dealing with it to the best of their ability. Of course all of these accidents do not raise purely from the state of the nation's roads, and unfortunately a large percentage of them are due to a disregard of the driving laws. We hope that the hard-working highway police brothers can increase road safety through their continuous presence on the roads, the warning and fining of offending drivers, and their guidance. Of course it is also essential that the mass media, particularly television, take the necessary actions to increase awareness of and attention to the laws and regulations, which have a direct relation to the safety of the people's journeys.

We have directed the bureaus of roads nationwide to widen the entrance and exit roads of large cities within the limits of their credits because a great many accidents occur within 30 kilometers of the cities. We hope that the figures the highway police will announce at the end of this year will be a great deal less than last years'. I should also point out the inattention on the part of some people to the preservation of the safety signs

on the roads. Each year the Ministry of Roads spends a considerable sum to erect safety signs on the roads so the roads will be safe enough. Unfortunately however, individuals heedless of the importance of these signs dig them up or paste posters or propaganda announcements over them. These persons must be made aware that this action causes deplorable accidents as well as wastes the treasury's money. God willing, they will give this problem their attention.

Concerning the improvement of the country's principal roads, Eng Tafzali said: Unfortunately, we faced problems in this area due to the past regime's inattention to road improvement and maintenance. Since March 1981 we have established the improvement of the main roads as a priority. Credits absorbed for this have gone from 13.3 billion rials in the March 1981-March 1982 year to 20.8 billion rials 2 years later. Once again we have a funds shortage. So far this year 14.1 billion rials credit has been allocated to this end, save credits spent by the head road bureaus for road improvement.

He added: Right now 5,000 kilometers of road are being improved. During the years following the revolution about 7,500 kilometers of the nation's roads have been improved. Of course it must be noted that road improvement is much more important than new road construction. We hope that in the coming year we will get the needed credits so that some of the country's roads will be in better condition.

Concerning the construction of border roads, he said: The construction of border roads is essential for the Islamic revolution and a vital matter for the Islamic republic. Since last year we have taken the services of the bureaus of roads in Sistan and Baluchistan, Birjand and Khorasan in order to utilize the resources of other bureaus in this important job. We also organized a united head road bureau in the southern part of Sistan va Baluchistan in the Pishin region. Last year 10 road construction crews with 200 pieces of equipment began work. At the present time about 1,150 kilometers of roads on the eastern border and part of the northern border are under construction. The Ministry of Roads is responsible for about 750 kilometers of this length, and other agencies are responsible for the rest.

9597

CSO: 4640/126

ESFAHAN ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION UP 30 PERCENT

Tehran BURS in Persian 2 Oct 84 p 5

[Text] Esfahan's first 800-megawatt power plant named after Martyr Mohammad Montazeri started production on the 6th day of the war week in the presence of Ayatollah Taheri, the imam's representative and the Friday imam of Esfahan; Dr Ghafuri-Fard the minister of energy; and the governor of this province.

According to an IRNA report, with this unit's operation and 200 megawatts of power, the electricity production of Esfahan will increase by up to 30 percent. The expected cost of this 800-megawatt power plant, whose second unit will start production at the end of the current year and whose two other units will start production at the end of the coming year, is over 40 billion rials. Its 200 personnel have been trained by Tavanir specialists.

Based on this report, the advantage of this power plant, which is built on 2.2 million square meters next to the Esfahan refinery and 20 kilometers from the city, is that its fuel will be provided by the refinery. The other advantage is its lower water consumption for cooling the tower, which is 10 percent less than for other power plants.

The same report states that the principal contractors of this power plant are the USSR Techno-Forum Export Company, the Budimese Company of Poland, which is doing the construction work, and the Trans-Electro Company of Hungary, which is building the cooling tower.

The primary studies for the establishment of this power plant began in 1975 and the agreement was signed between the USSR and Iran in September 1979 following the final bid. After the victory of the revolution in October 1980, construction of the power plant resumed.

The IRNA report indicates that at the inauguration ceremony for the first unit of the Martyr Montazeri power plant of Esfahan, a group of officials of the Ministry of Energy and the Iran Tavanir Company were present. The director general of the Iran Tavanir Company talked about the activities of the company: "This company has 8,000 megawatts of installed power throughout the country with a operational power of 6,700 megawatts." He added: "Most projects before the revolution were executed by foreigners and some of them

are still in the process of execution, but it has been decided that the design, execution, and installation of units will be completely done by ourselves. In carrying out this goal, the first power plant named after Martyr Rajaii, with the effort of Iranian experts, will start operation in 1989-1990." He proclaimed the establishment of power plants in Fars, Gilan, Neishapour and Garb as other Tavanir projects. He added: "Based on national needs, these power plants, when their preliminary design and planning is done, will be constructed."

Then he referred to electricity production: "Electricity production last year was two and one-half times more than production in 1977, which was the peak year of the previous regime. In the current year, Tavanir production has grown 15 percent compared with last year."

9815

CSO: 4640/123

DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES PROPOSING LIFE PRESIDENCY FOR ZIA

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 p 2

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov 30: Defence Minister Mr Ali Ahmed Khan Talpur, on Friday strongly denied that he had proposed life-presidency for President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Talking to newsmen at his residence here, he said some correspondents who had come to see him a few days ago had attributed to him things he had never said.

Talpur said no politician in his right frame of mind could propose such a thing in this twentieth century.

He said the specific question put up by one of these correspondents was "should President Zia-ul-Haq continue after forthcoming polls?" "Why not", Talpur said he answered, "if the people of Pakistan so desire him to continue".

"What came out in the print in a section of Karachi and Hyderabad Press the next day was an atrocious distortion", he said adding that professional ethics demanded that the statements were printed only in the context they were made and without mutilations.

Fortunately, he said, this is not the dominant trend among our Press which has largely upheld professional ethics beyond imputations.

His own observation was that people of Pakistan would like General Zia-ul-Haq to continue, he said in reply to a question.

He recalled that he was also once misquoted on the question of monarchy. "I never advocated monarchy for Pakistan. Nor did I advocate life presidency for General Zia-ul-Haq", he added.

Talking about the proposed elections, Talpur said the Government would go ahead with its plans even if some individuals tried to boycott the polls.

He said the elections would be fair and free and usher a new era of Islamic democracy.

"You will see the large turnout on the polling day and the ballot boxes full with ballot papers put in these boxes by the voters themselves". Rest assured, we are not going to direct the home secretaries or the deputy commissioners to stuff the ballot boxes with bogus ballot papers as was done in the March 1977 elections," he added.

Asked if peaceful polls could be held in certain parts of Sind province where law and order situation was not reportedly as good as in the rest of the country, Talpur replied: "Of course elections will be held in all parts of the country, and "You will yourself see how enthusiastically people of all districts of Sind province participate in the elections".

He said by their massive turnout on the polling day the people of Sind would give a lie to the baseless propaganda spread by certain misguided elements in this regard.

Replying to another question, Talpur said the decision of some people to boycott the forthcoming elections would not deflect the government from its course. It will be their individual decision and definitely will not carry much weight with the people, he added.

Talpur made it clear that the elections were being held in the country according to the President's August 12 schedule to establish Islamic democracy in the country.

Talpur also dispelled the fears that the coming elections would make politicians redundant. He said anybody with even a casual acquaintance with the social set-up in Pakistan should know that even if elections were held on non-party basis, the politicians would play an important role, except for those few who did not see the chance of manipulating the polls to their advantage.

People's Party

Asked why had the government not held the polls earlier, Talpur said the blame for this lay squarely on the People's Party regime which had played havoc with this nation and had pushed it down an abyss. "We are lucky to have been pulled out of it within such a short time", he said.

Talpur said in his opinion the extraordinary situation inherited by the present government from the previous regime was responsible for the delay in the elections.

He said it was not unique with Pakistan that the process of elections had to be deferred for seven years because of the extraordinary situation. He said even developed western democracies like USA and England had to postpone elections for several years during the extraordinary situation created by the Second World War.

Moreover, the Defence Minister said the movement started after March 1977 elections was not only against the rigging of elections but to get rid of unparalleled excesses against the high and the low of this country alike. He said during the previous regime honourable citizens were pulled out of their beds and were presented before the Prime Minister in their sleeping suits. Later some of them were humiliated in jails, he recalled.

He said nobody could speak out against the PPP regime. The Press had been suppressed beyond imagination. He said on Oct 27, 1976, he invited newsmen to reply to the regime's propaganda and about 50 journalists attended the Press conference but the next day not a word appeared in print. "I don't blame the journalists for that because the regime had effectively gagged the Press", he said.

"I think you will agree with me that during the martial law of General Zia-ul-Haq no Abdul Hameed Khan Jatoi, no Ali Hasan Khan Mangi, no Mir Nabi Bux Zehri or no Mr Ardeshir Cowasjee was arrested without warrants and despatched to the Prime Minister House".

Talpur said these kinds of things were worse than the situation created by wars. The entire nation was being subjugated to humiliation. On top of it, the PPP regime, he said, scandalously rigged elections on a scale that even shocked some of its own supporters.—APP/
PPI

CSO: 4600/123

TRADE DEAL WITH MAURITIUS SIGNED

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Dec 2: Pakistan and Mauritius have signed a trade agreement to facilitate, strengthen and diversify trade between the two countries.

The agreement was signed here today by the Federal Minister for Finance and Commerce, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the Mauritius Minister for Trade and Shipping, Mr Kader Bhayat, who is currently here at the head of a 7-member private sector's delegation from Mauritius.

Under the agreement, both Pakistan and Mauritius shall grant each other Most-Favoured Nation (MFN) Treatment in all matters pertaining to trade between the two countries.

Both the countries shall also facilitate and encourage each other's participation in trade fairs and exhibitions to be held in either country, subject to the respective rules and regulations of the two countries.

The agreement shall remain valid for a period of three years and shall also be renewed for successive periods of three years, unless otherwise desired.

Export items

Under the agreement, Pakistan can export to Mauritius items like rice, cotton cloth, cotton yarn, textile fabrics woven, leather, petroleum and petroleum products, fish and fish preparations, machinery and transport equipment, including engineering and electrical goods, surgical goods/medical instruments etc.

Similarly, Mauritius can export to Pakistan items like tea, plastic pipes, watch straps, synthetic yarn, fertilisers, dry cells, agricultural equipment and machinery, fishing equipment etc.

Earlier, the 7-member private sectors delegation from Mauritius, led by Mr Kader Bhayat, Minister for Trade and Shipping, had a detailed round of talks with the Federal Minister for Finance and Commerce, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

Avenues of cooperation

The Federal Secretary, Commerce, Mr Izharul Haq, and other

senior officials were also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, avenues of cooperation between the two countries with particular emphasis on private sector's collaboration in various fields, were explored. In this connection, mutual cooperation in the field of agriculture, industry, textile engineering goods, shipping, air traffic, culture, mass media, including T.V. plays, exchanges of cultural troupe etc., were discussed in detail.

The Mauritius delegation stressed that exchange of artist exhibitions of Pakistani paintings, calligraphic work, showing TV plays will help proper projection of Pakistan in Mauritius.

The Finance Minister welcomed the suggestion and hoped that cooperation in these areas as well as air traffic would be duly examined by the relevant authorities in the ministries concerned.

He also apprised the delegation that Pakistan could supply to Mauritius complete sugar and cement plant etc. —APP

CSO: 4600/126

SIND GOVERNOR DEFENDS REGIME'S SINCERITY OVER REFERENDUM, ELECTIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Dec 84 p 16

[Text]

HYDERABAD, Dec 5: Lt-Gen. Jahan Dad Khan, Governor Sind on Wednesday said here that the present Government was sincere about restoration of democracy and civilian government through the referendum and national and provincial elections.

He was talking to a joint meeting of Provincial ministers of Hyderabad Division, members of Federal and Provincial Councils and chairmen of district councils and union committees here at the Circuit House.

Lt-Gen. Jahan Dad Khan soon after his arrival here from Karachi by air on a day's visit discounted rumours that the forthcoming national and provincial assemblies' elections will be postponed after the referendum.

He assured that the Government will provide security to the contesting candidates, the electorates and the election staff during the elections.

He said the electorates will have the right to exercise their vote freely and independently. He said that no one will be allowed to jeopardise the proposed referendum and the election programme.

He said the measures already taken by the Government to ensure smooth and peaceful elections included the preparation of the electoral rolls, issuance of national identity cards by the mobile teams, creation of provincial, divisional and district election cells, appointment of honest presiding officers and polling staff, and deployment

of sufficient police force.

Regarding the appointment of polling agents, he said, that agents will be drawn from among local razakars and volunteers.

He said at the polling stations polling booths will be separate for men and women voters. He said that the Government in keeping with the wishes and aspirations of a large section, had dispensed with the affixation of photo of women on national identity cards.

He added that sanctity and secrecy of the voting system will be maintained at all costs and ballot papers will be furnished to the respective polling stations under security arrangements.—APP

Our Hyderabad Staff Correspondent adds: The Sind Governor visited on Wednesday afternoon Dewan Mushtaq Coronary Intensive Care Unit of the LMC Hospital, Hyderabad to enquire about the condition of Mr. G.M. Syed.

The Medical Superintendent LMC Hospital Prof. Dr. M. Hasan Memon said the condition of Mr. Syed was "much better."

The Governor was also taken round the various sections of the coronary unit by Dr. Abdul Karim Abbasi. Later the Governor met the doctors and assured them that their genuine demands would be given due consideration. He also sanctioned a sum of Rs 10 lakh for the purchase of medicines for the Hospital which was presently facing a shortage of medicines.

ZIA SAYS REFERENDUM TO USHER IN 'TRUE ISLAMIC ORDER'

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 12

[Excerpt]

TOBA TEK SINGH, Dec. 8: President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said here on Saturday that the Dec 19 national referendum was not an end in itself but a means to greater end of establishing a true Islamic order in the country.

He was addressing a mammoth public meeting, the second of his whirlwind tour of Punjab which he started from Sahiwal on Saturday morning.

The President said that after the referendum the whole process of election to national and provincial assemblies would be completed by March 23 next, according to the programme announced by him on Aug 12 last year.

He called upon people to massively vote in the referendum in accordance with the voice of their conscience, heedless of rumours being spread by certain elements.

The Government, he said, would fully honour people's verdict in the referendum.

The President said the referendum would determine a procedure not only for the achievement of the objectives of Pakistan but would also result in a smooth and orderly transfer of power to people's elected representatives. The referendum, he hoped, would also help people elect such persons in the federal and provincial elections who firmly believe in the Islamic values and had unblemished record.

Quaid's motto

The President said the nation should faithfully adhere to the motto of the Quaid-i-Azam, "Unity, Faith and Discipline."

The Quaid-i-Azam, he said, had realised the dream of Allama Iqbal and successfully led the nation to achieve a separate homeland for the Muslims of the South Asia sub-continent. Now, Insha Allah, the country would become a true Islamic State and fortress of Islam, he said.

The President said it was not praiseworthy for the country to have military rule for long. The Army took over when the country was on the verge of civil war and people had made great sacrifices in every corner of Pakistan for the enforcement of Nizam-i-Mustafa. The Army, he said, had to step in to save the country from internal and external dangers which loomed large at that time.

He said the country was passing through a critical phase. It was placed in a sensitive geographical region with fires burning all around. In the circumstances, Pakistan was an "island of peace". The government wanted to maintain this peace and ensure further stability, he added.

President Zia said he had come to people to ask them to endorse the process of Islamisation and efforts made during the last seven years to turn the country into a true Islamic State.

ZIA ADDRESSES GATHERING IN SAHIWAL

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 12

[Text]

SAHIWAL, Dec 8: President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq here on Saturday said that the proposed referendum on Dec 19 would prove a milestone in the nation's history, as it would strengthen every fibre of the society.

The President, who was addressing a large gathering at the Sahiwal Stadium as a part of his meet-the-people tour of the Punjab, which he started from here, said that after the creation of Pakistan this would be another opportunity of far-reaching import for people to give their verdict for solidarity, security, strength of Pakistan and Islamisation of society.

A large number of Federal and Provincial Councillors, elected members of local councils, Ulema, workers, farmers, ex-Servicemen and other people heard the President for about one hour, punctuating his speech with slogans of 'Islam Zindabad', 'Pakistan Zindabad', 'Mard-i-Momin', 'Mard-i-Haq', 'Zia-ul-Haq Zindabad.'

The President said the entire nation should take part in the referendum to give a mandate to the Government to continue its policies.

He said the outcome of the referendum would dispel all doubts about holding of the general election.

The President said he was starting his contact with people before the referendum from Sahiwal, which was close to the spiritual abode of Hazrat Baba Farid Shakarganj. He said he would round up his tour of the province from 'Daata's Nagri' at Lahore.

He said the basic objective of his tour was to explain to people issues facing the nation. Since the as-

sumption of power, he said, he had striven hard to make Pakistan an Islamic State. His government had taken many steps to strengthen national unity and ensure balanced economic growth. But still much more remained to be done to achieve the objective of making Pakistan a prosperous country and to totally Islamise its society.

He said the country could not be governed by martial law indefinitely. But whenever efforts were made to transfer power to the elected representatives of people, some elements tried to create hurdles, fearing that in the event of elections, the supporters of President Zia-ul-Haq would come into the forefront.

He said the situation at the country's borders was a matter of concern and it was the duty of people to forge unity so that no one could cast an evil eye on their sacred homeland.

President Zia said some elements were giving the impression that the Government was trying to eliminate political parties by holding referendum. The foreign media was in the forefront of this vilification campaign. They were of the view that the President wanted to get himself elected through this process. But people would not be misled by such propaganda, he said.

About women's role in national development, he said they would enjoy all those rights which were given to them by Islam.

President Zia praised the role of local bodies in motivating the rural population to participate in nation-building programmes.

Recounting his Government's achievements, the President said

that after initiating the Islamisation process and having taken certain measures in this connection, including the establishment of the Federal Shariat Court, zakat and Ushr system, he had also announced that the 1973 Constitution would be restored by bringing it in line with the injunctions of the Holy Quran and Sunnah.

The President told the gathering that 10 villages each in Sahiwal and Okara Districts would be electrified shortly as a gift on his behalf to the people.

Punjab Governor Lt-Gen Ghulam Jilani Khan accompanied the President. Some Provincial Ministers were also present.—APP

CSO:—4600/137

LOCAL BODIES MEETING VOICES SUPPORT FOR ZIA

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Dec 84 p 2

[Text]

LAHORE, Dec 4: A full-fledged campaign to motivate voters to cast their votes at the coming referendum in favour of President Zia-ul-Haq's programme was launched here on Tuesday when the well-attended Punjab Local Government convention debated the matter for about three hours.

Held at Bagh-i-Jinnah under the chairmanship of provincial Minister Malik Allah Yar Khan, the convention was significant in many respects. It attracted about two thousand participants from various walks of life from all over the province. There were members and office bearers of local bodies, ulema, traders, industrialists and members of the central and provincial shooras.

The main topic at the convention, of course, was the proposed referendum which dominated the discussion, and all the speakers chose to highlight one point: that the participants should concentrate their energies to work for and ensure the success of President Zia-ul-Haq in the coming referendum. In fact, a beginning in this regard was made on Monday when provincial Minister Mr Nawaz Sharif exhorted the participants of a meeting to work for the success of President Zia-ul-Haq, lamenting at the same time that the opposition had chosen to boycott the referendum.

Some local papers published large ads carrying an appeal from members of office-bearers of Gujranwala Municipal Body, urging the people to exercise their voting right in the favour of the President. Meanwhile, the Lahore District Council has convened a special meeting on Dec. 9 to adopt a resolution in support of the President.

On the other hand, some circles have taken exception to the referendum proposal. Their contention is that the question posed in the proposal boiled down to only one practical point — uncontested election of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq for a term of five years. They argue that a referendum is not provided for in the constitution.

At the convention, meanwhile, local bodies representatives who used to complain in Punjab Council sessions about lack of government attention towards solving a host of problems confronting their respective areas, devoted all their attention to enumerating the present regime's achievements and asked the people to vote for President Zia as a reward for the services he rendered during the last seven years to put the country on the track of progress and earn a good name in the comity of nations.

The referendum is aimed at bringing to an end the prevalent uncertainty, as well as ensuring the retention of power in hands which can enforce the Islamic democratic system and hold elections in a peaceful atmosphere, said provincial Minister Malik Allah Yar Khan in his presidential remarks.

He reviewed the progress made by the country in various fields and referred to Pakistan's policy on the question of Afghanistan. "Our adherence to our stand on the Afghanistan issue, despite the attendant external threats, provide a ground to every citizen of this country to hold his head high," he claimed.

Malik Allah Yar Khan described it as a duty of the local bodies

councillors to make the people in their respective areas realise the importance of voting, and persuade them to exercise it, as it was their "moral and national obligation".

The LMC Mayor, Mian Shujaur Rehman, said a vote for Gen. Zia would mean helping the acceleration of the process of enforcement of Islam. He hoped the "zinda dilan-e-Lahore" would play their historic role in the referendum, as they had been doing on other such important occasions.

Putting himself to the referendum was reflective of his adherence to the objectives that President Zia had been working for during the last seven years, the Mayor claimed.

Mr Ghulam Qasim Khakwani, Mayor, Multan, was of the view that subjecting himself to the vote of the entire nation was more difficult than seeking a vote from the parliament. But he hoped the nation would repose its confidence in the President.

CSO: 4600/134

DEFENSE MINISTER PREDICTS 'MASSIVE VOTE' IN ZIA'S FAVOR

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Dec 84 p 3

[Text]

KARACHI, Dec 4: A massive vote of confidence in the Islamisation policies of the present government, headed by President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, at the Dec. 19 referendum was forecast Tuesday by Defence Minister, Mir Ali Ahmed Talpur.

He said the Pakistani people knew how to protect their country, and they would demonstrate this by casting their ballots for President Zia-ul-Haq's policies in the coming referendum, he added.

He was talking informally with journalists at the end of the inaugural session of a three-day Civil Aviation Conference of the South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC) group, which began at a local hotel on Tuesday morning.

Answering another query, he voiced the opinion that the defunct Pakistan Peoples Party "will never return to power" because during its tenure in office it had "ruined Pakistan."

He said if the defunct PPP could secure the peoples' votes it would not have "rigged" the March 1977 elections.

Responding to another question, he said holding the referendum was necessary because the "seat of power should not be empty for any stretch of time."

In reply to another question, Mr Talpur said he would oppose any move for the return to power of Begum Nusrat Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto. "I will oppose them as a citizen of Pakistan." He recalled that he had been opposing the Bhutto family since 1971.

WALI KHAN ACCUSED OF 'BEING IN TUNE WITH KABUL AND DELHI'

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 25 Nov 84 p 6

[Article by Mehr Gul]

[Text] THE FOREIGN correspondent of the Lebanese newspaper, Al-Syed, was in Pakistan a few years ago on a professional assignment. A competent newsman, he met a cross-section of people during his stay and drew his own independent conclusions. In a despatch to his Paper, he said, inter alia, that "a new Mujib-ur-Rehman was emerging in Pakistan. He is not merely the head of the Parliamentary Opposition, he is dreaming also of being the head of the phantom state which he hopes will one day secede from Pakistan".

Apart from meeting scores of people in all the four provinces of Pakistan and attending public meetings, the Lebanese newsman must have read a lot of relevant material before filing his despatch. How he came to the above-quoted conclusion could be anybody's guess. But, there is no doubt that at one time a "new country" was being openly promised.

'New Country'

On Oct. 28, 1973, for instance, addressing an Eid congregation at Charsadda, Khan Abdul Wali Khan is reported to have said that "a new country comprising the Frontier Province, Baluchistan and Afghanistan would come into existence and its borderline would be shifted from Torkham not to the Attock Bridge but to somewhere in the Margalla Hills, near Rawalpindi". Earlier, during the same month, speaking at Nowshera, he had said that "if Pakistan is destroyed, we will not be destroyed. We would remove the chain from Chaman to the borders of Sind and from Torkham to Margalla".

Now, supposing (God forbid) such a phantom state does materialise, who would rule it? Those who remember the composition of the "good old" Congress Ministry in the NWFP, would say straightaway: "Of course, the family of the Frontier Gandhi". If the Lebanese newsman had come to the same conclusion, he was not far wrong. With that ultimate end in view, Khan Abdul Wali Khan had to be in tune with Kabul directly, and with Moscow and New Delhi indirectly. Gone is all the talk about Pukhtoonistan, because Babrak Karmal does not talk about it. Moscow has different ideas and different goals. Moscow has a 20-year treaty each with both New Delhi and Kabul. It is only Pakistan that stands physically between Kabul and Delhi.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan wants Pakistan to recognise the Karmal regime and to deal with it directly. This is another instance of being in tune with New Delhi, because India has the best of relations with that puppet of the Kremlin. Wali Khan would not recognise the fact that Pakistan is bound by the verdict of the OIC that has ostracised the puppet government in Kabul.

Apart from that, the United Nations has, for the sixth time, called upon the Soviet Union to pull its forces out of Afghanistan. What does it boil down to? Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, his son, Abdul Wali Khan, and Babrak Karmal-- just the three of them are ranged against the rest of the world, including 40 Muslim countries. They are defying 119 countries of the world just because a superpower is backing them. And all the love for the "Pukhtoon and Afghan brethren" that poured forth from Charsadda has suddenly dried up. "You have thrown us to the wolves", complained the Frontier Gandhi to the Indian leaders following Congress Working Committee's decision to accept the partition of British India. Those very "Wolves" have provided shelter to their three million Afghan brethren and not a penny has gone to them from the fat purses which India has bestowed on Badshah Khan from time to time.

The cruel irony is that while leaders of the Muslim and non-Muslim world have been visiting the Afghan refugee camps to express sympathy, neither Badshah Khan nor Khan Abdul Wali Khan has bothered even to look at them. This is the height of callousness, more so when one recalls Badshah Khan's "solidarity" with the Afghans, as claimed by him at page 237 of his autobiography, *My life and Struggle*. Says he: "It is my belief and conviction that all the people who live in the country that stretches from the river Jhelum to the river Amu (OXUS), as far as Herat, are Afghans. They are all Pukhtoos, and this country belongs to them". Badshah Khan and Wali Khan should go to Herat and see what the Kremlin has done to the people of that heroic city.

'Suffocation'

Khan Abdul Wali Khan and Begum Nasim Wali Khan flew to Delhi to express their sympathy with Mr. Rajiv Gandhi on the tragic assassination of his mother. Now, even allowing for the fact that he allegedly felt "suffocated" in his own country, this was just no occasion for a "dam-burst" on foreign soil. He had gone to Delhi on a mission of "love and sympathy", in as such, he should have observed the etiquette that a tragedy like that demanded. What was the hurry to indulge in a tirade against Pakistan? Or, was it the very congenial atmosphere of India and the "inspiring" air of Delhi that made him sing in tune with Pakistan-baiters?

"We have just four provinces. We do not have one country. The concept of a single state is not there", said Mr. Wali Khan, forgetting conveniently that he signed, of his own free will, the 1973 Constitution which is based on the Objectives Resolution. This more than answers his malicious comment on the "single state" and the process of Islamisation. A country with 22 states, bristling with communities and subnational groups speaking different languages, having different places of worship, different gods and deities, different drinking-water wells and ponds, and mutually exclusive marriage laws and customs, about 80 million Untouchables, and regions in the north, south, east and northeast trying to pull away from the Hindu-dominated Centre, appears to Mr.

Wali Khan as a compact single state, but not Pakistan, which has one homogeneous nation, with one Qibla and a common place of worship where the rich and the poor and the ruler and the ruled kneel side by side and proclaim "God is great!" Khan Abdul Wali Khan not only signed that Constitution but his party ruled two provinces under it too. Alas! in Delhi he forgot all about it. Pakistan could exist "as one nation" so long as his party was in power in the NWFP and Baluchistan. So give him power once again, and Pakistan will be "one state" once again!

U.S. Arms Sales

About the purchase of a limited quantity of sophisticated American arms, Mr. Wali Khan says: "The whole policy does not have the support of the people behind it". This comment is hundred per cent in tune with the Indian stance--right from the days of Pandit Nehru. Some observers have described Mr. Wali Khan's statement as His Master's Voice. When Mr. George Shultz called on Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to convey to him his government's condolences on the assassination of his mother, the new Indian Prime Minister, forgetting the rules of behaviour on such a sad occasion, raised the hackneyed issue of the sale of American weapons to Pakistan. This must have puzzled Mr. Shultz who, too, was on a mission of sympathy.

Perhaps Khan Abdul Wali Khan wants Pakistan to make do with the topaks (Pushto for long-barrel gun or rifle) made in the Kohat Pass or elsewhere on the North-West Frontier, or be content with the Korea War vintage military hardware, so that when his "friends" move in from east and west, Pakistan (God forbid) would go under easily. Since Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had repeated what his grandfather, Pandit Nehru, and, mother, Mrs. Gandhi, had been saying all these years, Mr. Wali Khan was, as if duty-bound, to re-echo it. Whether it is the son of Mrs. Indira Gandhi or of the Frontier Gandhi, it is Pakistan which is on their nerves--an obsession with them. "Mountains" of the latest Russian weapons which keep steadily rising in India are a routine affair in that country. Mr. Wali Khan, perhaps, feels that India needs an ever-growing supply of sophisticated arms. Why? one may ask him. Is it the fear of China or the dread of 40 F16s of Pakistan? China will never cross the lofty Himalayas to attack India. Indeed, China has been seeking friendship with India, and several sessions of exploratory talks have already been held in Beijing and Delhi. Pakistan's hand of friendship has remained extended across Wagah all these years, waiting to be grasped. Who else is India afraid of? Soviet Russia is India's traditional benefactor. The U.S. too, has aided India in many a vital field. That leaves Burma, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka on India's borders. It is for Wali Khan to decide whether these states pose a threat to India. If not, why is India hoarding and producing huge quantities of military hardware? The Indophile Wali Khan knows the answer but will never utter it out of blind love. Mr. Wali Khan also does not see the havoc which the Russian weapons have been playing in Afghanistan and on Pakistan-Afghan border. He is satisfied so long as he and Badshah Khan continue to be accorded right royal reception in Afghanistan. From Zahir Shah through Sardar Daud Khan, to Babrak Karmal, father and son have both been switching their loyalty from one to the other, from the hunted to the hunter, only with one aim: to disintegrate Pakistan. Somehow they want to avenge their pre-Independence defeat at the hands

of the Muslim League. To achieve that objective, they will team up with anybody in Kabul, be it a Kala Chor--to translate an Urdu phrase. It is this malicious quest, moreover, that makes Wali Khan rummage about old documents in the India Office Library in London --to slander the founding fathers of Pakistan.

"Revolution?"

Khan Abdul Wali Khan also spoke of the possibility of a bloody revolution in Pakistan. The Frontier referendum of 1946 was the first revolution which put an end to the monopolistic rule of the Shahi Bagh family of Charsadda tehsil. If at all there is going to be another revolution, as hinted by Wali Khan, it will sweep away the hereditary waderas wherever they are in Pakistan.

Badshah Khan and Khan Abdul Wali Khan are supposed to be still popular with a section of the Indian National Congress, now Congress (I). Why cant't they utilise their "pull" with India for bringing Delhi closer to Islamabad so that the two neighbours may live in amity with each other for all time to come? How much longer will the father and son carry their feud against Pakistan?

CSO: 4600/136

JAPANESE INVESTMENT: PROBLEMS ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 7

[Article by Sultan Ahmed]

[Text]

THE Japanese are masters of understatement. And they elevate that to a fine art or reduce it to a code intelligible to those familiar with that at formal conferences. This is not simple evasiveness on their part, as is commonly understood, but also a reflection of their politeness which is deeply ingrained in the Japanese social mores.

If, for example, the leader of the 38-member Japanese delegation, Mr. Goro Koyama, at the end of the prolonged in-depth talks with officials led by Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad and with the leaders of trade and industry in Karachi, softly held "immaturity of infrastructure" as one of the major deterrents to increasing Japanese investment in Pakistan, instead of directly talking of critical inadequacies, that is how the Japanese understate things. But such politeness along with their quiet but relentless efforts have made Japan the second industrial power in the world, outpacing the Soviet Union, despite its land space of only 0.3 per cent of the world.

Pakistan's economic problems with Japan are of two kinds; the trade gap between them is too large, with Pakistan importing goods for Rs 9,192 million, while exporting goods for Rs 2,818 million in 1982-83, or the imports were 760 million dollars while Pakistan's exports were 263 million dollars in 1983. Pakistan wants to reduce this gap. Japan agrees to that in principle, and yet this 3:1 trade ratio has

lasted for long.

Pakistan wants increasing Japanese investment in Pakistan along with Japan's advanced technology. Japan agrees to that as well in principle, but in practice Japanese investment in Pakistan is a minuscule 0.05 per cent of their direct investment in Asia.

Economic problems

The Japanese are really interested in close economic relations with Japan. There is a cultural identity, too, in the form the Ghandara culture and ancient Buddhist centres in Pakistan. Japanese interest in Pakistan has been enhanced by the manner President Zia made vigorous efforts to promote Japanese investment in Pakistan by meeting a large number of industrialists, and the prompt return visit to Pakistan by Prime Minister Nakasone this year. Hence the visit of an investment study mission to Pakistan last year, has been followed by a large one which has resulted in the formation of a Pakistan-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, with one half each of the committee in both countries which will meet at least once a year. The committee along with the Memorandum of Understanding signed in Karachi provides an institutional structure for increasing economic cooperation between them and reduces the information and communication gaps which exist between the two economies.

Japan's interest in Pakistan extends far beyond its 760 million dollar exports to Pakistan. Add to that a large part of the 600 million dol-

lar worth of consumer goods brought into Pakistan annually by its workers overseas which are mostly of Japanese origin, whether they be automobiles, airconditioners, VCR and Hi Fi equipment or a variety of other domestic appliances. Add to that, also at least 200 million dollars worth of goods brought in by Pakistanis, including airline and other personnel, who travel frequently, through legal or hidden means, from Singapore, Hong Kong and other free ports on a routine business which, too, are mostly of Japanese origin. Clearly Japanese interests in Pakistan are very large and they want to sustain and develop them.

The Japanese are deeply impressed by the fact that Pakistan has a consumer society with great potential importing more of Japanese consumer goods one way or another, the official economic policy is designed to promote such consumerism and the revenues of the State too are heavily dependent on such consumer imports.

Of added importance to them is the manner they set Pakistan as the gateway to the Middle East. They realise the great economic potentials of Pakistan if properly developed. Along with all that the Pakistani request for Japanese technology is not followed by any kind of insistent demands, which suits the reluctant Japanese eminently.

Remote country

In all this Pakistan stands in sharp contrast to India which wants less of Japanese goods and more of Japanese technology. It does not believe or glory in consumerism, particularly through imported consumer durables, and wants to mass produce such goods at home because of its fast developing electronics industry. Japan hence tends to regard India more as a potential competitor than as one needing Japanese assistance. That, and the uncertainties in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, have enhanced the interest of the Japanese in Pakistan in the troubled sub-continent.

And yet when Pakistanis pressed the Japanese industrialists to invest more here at the first meeting of the Japan-Pakistan Business Co-operation Committee Mr. Eme Yamasita, executive Vice-President of Mitsui and Co, and others said that Pakistan was a remote country for them. They were more familiar with Korea and the Far East, including Indonesia and

now Malaysia. So the bulk of their investment in Asia went there. But they were wrong in saying Pakistan is remote when they find Europe close enough to make large investments, not to speak of the U.S. But if by that they meant mental remoteness, that they are able to understand us less, that this country is far less institutionalised and documented than Europe they are right.

It is easy to identify possible areas for joint enterprises between Pakistan and the industrial States. We had done that with the U.S. earlier. We had repeated that with the Arab investors to capitalise on our religious and regional bonds. We did identify some areas for such collaboration with India as well. And now seven industrial sectors in which joint enterprises with Japan are possible have been identified. Among them are automobiles, electrical components, generators, pumps, agri-based industries, deep-sea fishing and seafood processing. Mr. Koyama also said that identifying such areas does not amount to a commitment, and investors were free to explore projects outside these areas as well.

But the fact is that the Japanese would not want to do anything which reduces Japan's very large direct and indirect exports to Pakistan. Nor are they eager to export their high-tech to Pakistan, nor are we equipped to receive and utilise it. That kind of technological infra-structure is lacking here.

When it comes to exporting more to Japan the Japanese want Pakistanis to understand the Japanese market, improve their export techniques and exploit the large market. They fault our trading practices in a big way. Mr. Hiroshi Kamiya, in his paper on Pakistan-Japan trade, said that Pakistan's exports of shrimps for 25 million dollars in 1983 meant a sharp fall of 27.5 per cent from the preceding year's shrimp exports to Japan. The reasons given were fall in the quality of the shrimp and unstable delivery. Japan's total imports of shrimps were 125 million dollars. With quality goods, better packaging and efficient export practices, Pakistan can have a larger share of this market than it has, he said.

Mr. Koyama hence wants the Export Promotion Bureau to have better contacts with Japanese businessmen in Karachi, and for Pakistan to make use of the services of the Japanese Trading House (Sogo-Shosha) not only to improve its exports to Japan but also to third countries. This is certainly an experiment worth trying

for two years for some of our trading practices are grossly faulty.

When Pakistani and Japanese industrialists meet they talk of the possibilities and potentials of mutual co-operation. But between the possibilities and the reality along with the immediate moves, there is a large gap. Pakistani investors were talking seriously at meetings of Japan becoming an economical model for Pakistan without taking into account a host of factors which are a pre-requisite for that in Pakistan in the political, economic, social, cultural and religious fields.

Better contacts

The Japanese are impressed by our economic potentials but not by our approach to developing them. They are impressed by the Sixth Five-Year Plan but are disappointed by the sanctioning procedures and what Mr. Koyama calls "lack of transparency of investment procedures." The Japanese may be slow in coming to a decision, but once they decide they move fast, very fast. But in Pakistan the gap between policy and practice, programmes and performance, is vast.

They are impressed by our manpower but are quick to point out its low productivity. They want joint enterprises but do not find it easy to come up with the right local partners, who want to really invest and not simply profit by new opportunities.

When Pakistanis talk of the Export Free Zone the Japanese are not too impressed. Such zones are too many in the region, including those in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. India is hoping to have a dozen of them soon.

The Japanese are hence interested more in the large domestic market. And even here the greater preference appears to be for investment in agro-based industries, sea-food processing, deep-sea fishing and manufacturing of pumps and electrical parts, where the capital investment would be small.

Clearly one does not get substantial foreign investment for the asking but by working earnestly for that and creating the right climate.

ECONOMY: PRIVATIZATION ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 p 7

[Article by Shahid Kardar]

[Text]

IN RECENT months Government functionaries have been actively engaged in justifying the need for a substantial reduction in the economic resources made available to public sector undertakings. A gradual replacement by the private sector is being suggested in operations under public sector control. The structural adjustment programme, which sought deregulation and greater privatisation of the economy and which became part of the Government's economic measures under the loan agreements with the World Bank and the IMF, has now become an essential component of the regime's economic policy.

By embracing the World Bank and IMF sponsored policy package as its own, the Government is hoping to convince us of the nationalist underpinnings of the overall strategy. Slowly but surely the exercise on deregulation is being made to run its course with the related dismantling of the institutional framework. It is being argued that it is necessary to make the economy more responsive to the magic of market forces to enable a more efficient allocation of resources, thereby "liberating the creative energies of the private sector".

The Government's fiscal and monetary policies are now being shaped to grant greater importance to the role of the private sector. Recent budgets portray the Government's moves in this direction. To fund the development effort, the financial restructuring of the economy is being pursued through the privatisation of the public sector and its gradual withdrawal from a lot of economic activities.

Public funds

One of the methods employed is that bureaucrats in the controlling ministries are being pressured to influence the managerial and operational performance of public sector enterprises. This interference is being justified on the plea that it is obligatory on the Government to supervise and monitor the efficient and effective utilisation of public funds. Undertakings showing financial losses have been asked to pull up their socks or else face closure. They are being asked to fend for themselves and reduce their reliance on government doles and subsidies, even though prices of their products are being controlled for political reasons. Their poor financial showing is then highlighted as sufficient ground for disinvestment.

It is also being persuasively argued that, given the past failure of public sector investment in generating additional resources, the role of the public sector should be minimised and the available re-

sources be earmarked for meeting demands for infrastructural development and improved social services. With this background it makes sense, the argument proceeds, to call upon the private sector to accelerate the rate of industrial development. And to expect it to play this role, it has to be courted through incentives and adequate facilities. The motive underlying this new found faith in the private sector is the Government's need to supplement its resources to meet the rapidly rising non-development expenditure on defence and administration.

This augmented role of the private sector is expected to speed up domestic resource mobilisation measures. The need for external capital either as aid or as foreign private investment has encouraged the rapid introduction of policies which encourage the indiscriminatory dismantling of the public sector. They are being accorded official recognition and patronage.

Skilled workers

It is accepted that there is corruption and mismanagement in public sector undertakings, but it is by no means the exclusive preserve of the public sector. There is widespread corruption and mismanagement in the private sector also. Furthermore, the private sector has been granted more than adequate incentives in the past, like capital at concessional rates, liberal tax allowances and almost prohibitive import tariffs on competitive products. The solution of their problems is not public disinvestment and sale to private entrepreneurs at knock-down prices. What is needed is a restructuring of the organisational set-up

(neglected in the past) with greater control in professional hands.

Public sector enterprises are starved of adequately skilled workers and professionals because they cannot match market rates. Moreover, in a number of instances, senior positions are manned by officers from amongst the services who are generally not endowed with the management expertise and experience demanded by their position and the nature of operations. Bureaucratic red-tape not only obstructs efforts to diversify activities but also slows down the processing of licenses (for equipment or goods required for production), allocation of foreign exchange, etc.

No convincing evidence has been presented to substantiate the claim that in Pakistan the private sector has been more efficient than the public sector. There can be a proper debate on the efficiency of the latter only after all factors, not just performance evaluated on the basis of financial ratios, are considered — e.g. capacity utilisation, cost per unit of output, reinvestment of the generated surplus, contribution to government revenues, rates of return on investment, etc.

The Government's policies spelt out above will reinforce the in-built mechanism aiding the centralisation of the decision-making process and the concentration of economic power. The centralising forces will further undermine efforts designed to promote national integration and unity whereas concentration of economic control will only serve to exacerbate the wide differentials in incomes and wealth.

Income and assets

The skewed distribution of income and assets determines the size of the domestic market and the consumption pattern and thereby the production technology, the industrial structure and the level and nature of employment. The inequality in the ownership of productive assets means that the alleged neutrality of the free play of market forces (as envisaged by the deregulation measures), under the regime of liberalisation and private ownership of the economy's commanding heights, will only reinforce the existing inequalities. The policies of deregulation and privatisation will also require the use of force so that all markets (including that for labour) operate freely. Therefore, economic growth determined by the prevailing institutional framework will ensure that significant portions of the population remains economically, socially and politically marginal.

The solution to our problems is not the deregulation of the economy and the privatisation of the means of production. Development strategies designed to promote growth will be stultified if not preceded by the re-arrangement of property and social relations. China, for example, is a centrally planned economy which has instituted a lot of direct controls on the allocation of resources. The State intervenes in the market, rations many essential consumer goods and regulates the demand for labour and financial credits. Thus, China does everything which the Government believes we should not do. Yet China has grown at a much faster rate than us, suffers a lower infant mortality rate, can boast of a higher life expectancy, has provided primary education for all, has almost eradicated malnutrition and still managed to create a highly egalitarian society.

SIXTH PLAN: REVISION, SCALING DOWN ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 Business Supplement pp I, II

[Article by Syed Mahdi Mustafa]

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT'S decision to revise the size of the Sixth Plan downwards by 10 to 15 per cent in favour of a Rolling Plan for 1985-86 has led to some questions being raised.

What are the causes that necessitated the revision of the Sixth Plan, it is being asked. It is also being asked what a rolling plan precisely means and implies.

To begin with defining a rolling plan, according to an eminent Western economist, it is one which is "revised at the end of each year and, as the first year of the plan is dropped, estimates, targets and projects for another year are added to the last year."

According to economist Albert Waterston, a leading exponent of planning in developing countries, "the plan would be renewed at the end of each year and the number of years would remain the same as the plan "rolled" forward in time.

But he also opines that "Rolling Plans have proved to be too difficult for most less developed countries to manage. A simpler way of bringing a medium-term plan up-to-date is the annual plan when it is used as a device for making a medium-term plan operational.

If the definition of Waterston is accepted, the adoption of a rolling plan by Pakistan for 1985-88 would really not be a rolling plan. What Pakistan, therefore, hopes to adopt in place of the revised Sixth Plan is a Mini Plan for 1985-88, which will

be implemented through the device of the annual plans.

Now, about the need for revision. A number of factors have led to the trimming down of the Sixth Plan, the most important of which were the original size of the Plan and its financing, and, the setbacks suffered by the economy during the first year of its operation.

The total outlay in the public sector was projected at Rs 290 billion out of which Rs 210 billion was to be implemented through the Annual Development Programmes (ADPs) of the Federal Government, Rs 65 billion through public corporations and another Rs 15 billion through Special Development

Only a realistic assessment of the availability of resources can make the Rolling Plan implementation a success.

Programmes.

In 1983-84, the first year of the Sixth Plan, an amount of Rs 31.9 billion was to be spent through ADP followed by Rs 36.4 billion in 1984-85. The actual implementation in 1983-84 was of only Rs 29.1

billion and the projected expenditure for 1984-85 is Rs 33.3 billion. Thus, there was a shortfall in ADP implementation both in the first and second years of the Sixth Plan.

Of Rs 65 billion to be invested through the public corporations, only Rs 23 billion or 35.4 per cent of the financing was to come through internal resources. The dependence on external resources was to the extent of 30.8 per cent or of Rs 20 billion. Additionally, Rs 22 billion or 33.8 per cent of financing was to be raised through internal bank borrowings.

In other words, of the total of Rs 65 billion only 35.4 per cent was to be through internal resources and 64.6 per cent represented borrowings, both internal and external.

Special Development Programmes of Rs 15 billion were to be financed to the extent of only Rs 5 billion by the Federal Government, whereas the rest was to be raised through borrowings. Thus, both for public corporations' financing and in the financing under Special Development Programmes dependence upon borrowings, both internal and external, was fairly high.

Similar was the case of development programmes to be undertaken by the Federal Government. Taking the ADP size of Rs 210 billion in conjunction with the requirements of the Special Development Programme of Rs 5 billion, total development outlay came to Rs 215 billion. Of this over 37.2 per cent or Rs 80 billion was to be provided through external resources and 20 per cent or Rs 43 billion was to be borrowed from the banking system.

Thus, the dependence on borrowings, both internal and external, amounted to 57.2 per cent of the total financing.

Even after such a heavy dependence on borrowed resources, there was a gap of Rs 16 billion or of about 7.4 per cent which was an uncovered deficit. This leads to the conclusion that sufficient resources were not available for undertaking the Rs 290 billion public sector programme.

In the case of private sector programme of Rs 200 billion, 87.5 per cent was projected to come through domestic resources while dependence upon foreign loans/equity was to the extent of 12.5 per cent only. Institutional finance from specialised and other banks and

non-banking institutional finance were projected at 34.5 per cent, corporate savings and new equity contributions were to contribute about 9 per cent and only 44 per cent was to come through self financing.

In the case of private sector investment financing, the situation was comparatively better than in the case of public sector financing. But, in the case of private sector too, the dependence on borrowings, both internal and external, was to the extent of 47 per cent of the total planned investment of Rs 200 billion.

Thus, it would appear, that for financing private investment also, the availability of resources was inadequate for the planned size of investment projected at Rs 490 billion.

The setbacks suffered by the economy during the first year of its operations proved to be the second most important constraint in implementing the original size of the Plan, leading to the eventual decision to revise it downwards.

The Sixth Plan had projected a GDP growth of 6.5 per cent annually during 1983-88 but it amounted to only 4.45 per cent in 1983-84, the first year of the Plan. To make up for the loss in the growth in the first year, GDP would have to grow by over 8.6 per cent during the remaining years of the Plan period which seemed an almost impossible task realising that even during 1978-83, when the Fifth Plan was successfully implemented, the GDP recorded an average annual growth of only 6 per cent.

The agricultural sector which was projected to record an average annual growth of 4.9 per cent during 1983-88 suffered a severe setback when value added by it declined by 4.63 per cent in 1983-84. To make up this loss, this sector would have to grow by almost 7.3 per cent annually during the remaining period of the Sixth Plan. This to seemed an impossible task when one realised that despite very favourable weather conditions the agricultural sector recorded an average annual growth of only 4.42 per cent during 1978-83.

The growth in the industrial sector was targeted at an average annual rate of 9.3 per cent during 1983-88 but in 1983-84 it grew by only 7.73 per cent. Again, to re-

cover this loss, the industrial sector would have to grow by an average of over 12 per cent during the remaining years of the Sixth Plan. This again looked difficult when one realised that starting from a depressed base the growth in the manufacturing sector in 1978-83 averaged only 9.0 per cent per annum.

Our external position is also far from happy. Exports were projected to record an average annual growth of 15.0 per cent and imports of 12.0 per cent during 1983-88. In 1983-84, the first year of the Sixth Plan, exports grew by only 1.7 per cent while imports recorded a rise of 6.4 per cent.

In the first four months of the current fiscal year the situation in the trade sector has worsened with exports recording a decline of 15.6 per cent and imports a rise of 10 per cent over the corresponding period of the previous year.

Setback has also been suffered in the expatriate income. Foreign remittances which fell by 4 per cent during 1983-84 over 1982-83 recorded a further decline of 8 per cent during the first three months of 1984-85. This contrasted with an average annual growth of 20.3 per cent during 1978-83 and the projected annual average rise of 10 per cent for the Sixth Plan period of 1983-88.

In regard to foreign assistance, the trend seems to be equally disturbing. Net transfer of resources as a proportion of gross disbursements which stood at only 29 per cent in 1982-83 came down further to an estimated 9 per cent in 1983-84. This contrasts with net transfers as a proportion of gross disbursements of 56 per cent in 1977-78.

There is another aspect also to consider. As the Federal Planning Minister pointed out almost 4.2 billion dollars of foreign assistance is blocked in the pipeline for want of matching projects in the country. Of the total assistance that Pakistan received upto the end of December, 1983, tied assistance was 93 per cent of the total commitments whereas 59 per cent was project aid. The fact that \$ 4.2 billion is blocked in the pipeline clearly indicates that viable projects are not available where the blocked aid could be utilised.

This brings us to the realisation that lack of domestic resources and infrastructural facilities are coming in the way of utilisation of foreign assistance that is available to us.

Some inherent defects also seem to be obtaining in the planning exercise. As the Minister said, in some cases more than the required amount of foreign assistance was mobilised, while in others the assistance did not materialise at all. This reflects partly the attitude of the donors and partly the efficiency of our planners to link resources with projects.

The Planning Minister hopes that the priorities of the three year rolling plan, as he puts it, would be identical to those of the Sixth Plan

with top priority given to the development of energy sector followed by the development of essential infrastructural facilities and spread of rural services and education.

While one would entirely agree with the priorities that the Planning Minister has set forth, it seems highly important that the targets for the new rolling plan are set according to the availability of resources relative to time. Only a realistic assessment of the availability of resources can make the rolling plan's implementation a success.

Now that the lessons have been learnt from an unduly optimistic size of the Sixth Plan, one can only hope that the size of the rolling plan would be realistic.

CSO: 4600/124

FAULTY APPROACHES TO PLANNING CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 Business Supplement pp I, IV

[Article by M. Ziauddin]

[Text]

THE planners who are engaged in preparing the three-year rolling plan are reported to have adopted the same methodology for the purpose which they did at the time of drafting the three-year rolling plan to replace the goals envisaged for the last three years of the Fifth Plan.

The methodology adopted at that time was first to make "realistic" projections of resources, external and internal, that could be mobilised in the next three years, identify projects that could be completed within the next three years, and choose those which are most essential or those for which both external assistance and matching rupee resources could be lined up without any extra effort.

Having done this, the other projects which by the process of elimination had been designated as "non-essential" or those for which there was no hope of getting any foreign assistance or if there was in the pipeline enough aid for the projects but which could not be matched with rupee resources, will be allowed to spillover to the next plan.

Faulty approach

Independent economists believed that this approach to "emergency" planning was faulty. They, however, maintain that while the planners usually get swept off their feet when preparing long-

term or mid-term plans, those who are responsible for executing these plans are "not properly trained to execute development plans".

These experts said the executors usually get panicked if they see a plan not coming up as planned and start shouting for reappraisal which usually means: Let us do what we are trained to do, that is do nothing and let the weather; economic windfalls and aid climate take care of development and if things go all right pick up the credits and in case the winning combination does not turn up for one reason or the other then camouflage any shortfall in any sector under the cover of dizzying statistics which none but us could unravel.

When asked to elaborate what they meant by "not properly trained to execute development plans", these economists said that Pakistani executor of public sector development plans, more often than not, has a typical educational background. He is either an ordinary bachelor of arts or science and in some cases holds a master's degree in such subjects as history, philosophy, economics, chemistry, physics, etc.

And if the courses taught in these subjects in Pakistani universities and colleges over the last 35 years are gone into threadbare it would be seen clearly that they mostly learnt outdated principles and theories which cannot be applied in meeting the challenges of development of a developing country struggling to swim in a sea of modernity all around, they added.

Memory for quotes

Next they said when these so-called "highly educated" people join the public sector, to be groomed into executors of development plans at a future date, they

USAID is spending 25 million dollars to train some 2,000 Pakistanis in management in USA and third countries.

are most often than not trained to be glib talkers with good memory for quotes from Shakespeare, Ghalib and Faiz. Understanding the works of these great humanists is not conditional.

They are also taught, observed these economists, to feel superior to the general lot of the people in intelligence, political acumen and that mythical trait "leadership". Thus when they come face to face with the task of executing a development plan, they look at the whole exercise with a vision restricted by their educational background and further constricted by their feeling of superiority.

These independent economists, however, conceded that those who are not spoiled by such education and training normally join the rut after having fought for sometime the dos' and dont's of the service rules. And by the time they realise what they have been groomed into, it is time for retirement so why make a fuss for nothing.

The independent economists said that there are a number of "executors" who prove exception to the rule but their efforts in the right directions usually get lost in a maze of mediocrity. And sometime these people are heard apologising with a pet phrase: Governments everywhere are the same, they are like dinosaurs and therefore move very slowly.

These economists did not, by any means, think that training institutions like the National Institute for Public Administration in Karachi and Lahore, the Administrative

Staff College, Lahore, the Pakistan Academy of Rural Development, Peshawar and the Pakistan Institute of Management, in Karachi, were not operating to their fullest efficiency level.

However, they asked if these institutions were performing properly then why did the donors of the 1.65 billion dollar economic aid package (the USA) is spending as much as 25 million dollars from the package to train some 2,000 Pakistanis in management in the USA and third countries.

The Development Support Training Project (DSTP) of USAID is to be administered within the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs Division, and is designed to "strengthen and upgrade the managerial and technical expertise of Pakistani men and women from both private and public sectors."

According to reports, a consortium of well-known American institutions is implementing the Government of Pakistan/USAID DST Project under the coordination of the Academy of Education Development, Washington D.C.

They include Arther D. Little Inc, one of the world's largest management consulting firm, Pennsylvania State University's Institute for Public Administration and the Experiment for International Living, one of USA's most experienced organisations in the placement and support of persons from other lands who go to USA for study.

Pilot project

The Academy for Educational Development will also coordinate the overall USA and third country government - of Pakistan/USAID participant placement efforts in agriculture, health, energy, engineering, education, management and other related fields.

The most interesting aspect of this programme, these independent experts said, concerns the project for specialised English language courses for "those who need increased English language competency to meet foreign university requirements".

An initial pilot project in this connection has already been held in Quetta for Baluchistan officials

from May 19 to June 30. Another course was started in Peshawar in mid-October for prospective training candidates from that region.

These independent experts said that in Pakistan Government, jobs are usually confined to that handful of educated people who are supposed to be proficient, if not in anything, at least the English language.

However, the donor whose 1.65 billion dollars are at stake does not think so and so it has been arranged to spend some money and time on first getting these "educated" government employees trained in communicating in the English language which in the first place was the medium of their instructions in school, college and university. Urdu became the medium of instruction only five years ago.

Back to square one

Thus, they thought, it was something like going back to square one after having wasted so much time and money on these people who are employed as executors of development plans which never got executed properly for understandable reasons.

According to knowledgeable sources, the DST Project has three elements: 1) The tailoring of short and long term courses in management and administration to meet the needs of specific public sector agencies and departments; 2) The inclusion of private sector individuals in overseas and in-country training opportunities; 3) Programme emphasis on the North-West Frontier and Baluchistan.

It is said that USAID has allotted seven million dollars and Rs 20,227,212 to the project thus far. It is also believed that the Project's management training activities will centre on NIPA, ASC, PARD

and PIM. Specialised consultants will work with each institute in the development of new courses, new training methodology and upgrading the skills of the present staff.

Fish out of water

In the opinion of independent sociologists, such training programmes in the past have more often than not produced personnel who felt like fish out of water when they came back and were confronted with real issue on the ground.

They hoped that the current programme would keep this angle in mind and design courses that would enable the trained to make use of the modern management techniques in clearing the bottlenecks in the way of development planning and execution in Pakistan.

They also pointed out that such programmes usually bypass the really talented and provide an opportunity for the "connected" ones to have a pleasure trip abroad which usually turns into a vehicle for finding cushy jobs in foreign countries for those with the real "pull".

Thus if 2,000 are expected to be trained under this programme, the mortality rate at the end of the programme would be, if the past experience could be used as a yardstick, something like 70 per cent. Then the nation, in the final analysis, would be left with an empty sack and things would remain as they were as far as the need to produce really motivated and properly trained executors of development plans.

In the years to come, visionaries would continue to prepare plans tailors to the national aspirations while the executors would keep on cutting them to fit their narrow ability to execute.

REFERENDUM: ZIA'S PLEDGE TO HONOR PEOPLE'S VERDICT CITED

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Dec 84 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Dec 1: In a Press briefing after the President's announcement to hold referendum on Dec. 19, a Government spokesman said that in the event of a negative vote Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, as he had stated in his broadcast this evening, would fully honour the verdict of people. He described the President's decision as a bold step.

Replying to questions, the spokesman said that as the President had declared, the referendum would be held in a completely free and impartial manner by the Election Commission. He did not think that there would be any scope for canvassing by the opposition against Gen. Zia-ul-Haq's plan to seek vote of confidence.

He did not make any direct statement about the freedom the Opposition might be allowed to propagate or project its views on the referendum plan in newspapers or through leaflets or pamphlets. He said that in any case it was not an election campaign nor were different parties contesting it. There would be certainly no room for public meetings or processions, but 'fair' means, as allowed in law, would be permitted, he added.

The spokesman said the democratic way to give one's opinion was to cast one's vote. He said any effort to prevent or discourage people from casting their vote would be contrary to a democratic system and not good for the future either. He, however, made it clear that law and order would be maintained in the country.

He hoped that non-Government

media would explain to people the performance of the Government during the last seven years but no one would be allowed to disrupt it.

When asked about the significance of the President's appeal to the armed forces to exercise franchise, the Government spokesman said members of the armed forces enjoyed the same right to vote as other members of the nation.

When a reporter said the question to be put to people in the referendum appeared long for their comprehension, the spokesman answered: "Could you provide a shorter version?" The answer was in any case to be a 'Yes' or 'No', he pointed out.

Answering a few questions about the measures that might be taken to ensure fair counting of votes to make the referendum result convincing, the spokesman said he did not subscribe to the view that the Election Commission, composed of members of judiciary, could be anything but fair. There would be no one on the President's side to count 'Yes' votes and, therefore, there was no scope for anyone to be present at the counting of 'No' votes.

At the close of the briefing, the spokesman said he would also like to inform the Press that Mr Mahmoud Haroon, the former Federal Interior Minister and former Chairman of the Election Coordination Committee, was one of the strong supporters of the present referendum move and had spoken frequently about it at his last Cabinet meeting (in November).

MINISTER SAYS ELECTIONS BODY TO MEET ALL POLITICIANS

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov 28: Raja Sikandar Zaman Khan, Federal Minister for Water and Power and member of the Election Coordination Committee, said here on Wednesday that the Coordination Committee was ready to meet all types of politicians irrespective of their stand on the forthcoming elections.

In an interview with APP, he said: "We have been always ready to meet the politicians if they like. We can go and see them anywhere they like".

"We will make all efforts to see even those politicians who are reluctant to meet us", he added. "Meeting with the country's politicians was one of the purposes of the Coordination Committee".

The minister said that the government was committed to hold free and fair election, which would prove to be an example. Strict arrangements were under way to ensure elimination of malpractices and bungling from the forthcoming elections, he added.

President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq will soon announce the election schedule and will take decision regarding holding of elections on party or non-party basis, he said.

The minister said that as the past routine, National Assembly elections would be followed by the ones to provincial assemblies.

According to the Constitution, the provincial assemblies will elect members for the Senate, which forms the Upper House of the Parliament, in their very first meetings.

The National Assembly (the Lower House) gives representation on the basis of population to all parts of the country while the Senate (Upper House) gives equal representation to all the four provinces of the country irrespective of their population, he said.

The minister forecast all-time high turn out of the electorate in the country's history during the coming elections keeping in view the keen interest of the people in making sure that their names were on the voters' list.

Raja Sikandar Zaman said that the Election Commission had almost finalised its arrangements for

the forthcoming elections. He said that work on the training and education of the officials responsible for holding elections was under way.

He said that certain quarters were spreading rumours that there would be no elections but nobody should believe them and the time would prove that they had misunderstood the situation.

He said a common phenomenon witnessed these days that the would-be candidates for the elections had already started their campaign.

The intending candidates in different parts of the country were active in meeting people without missing any opportunity, be it a happy occasion or otherwise.

One can see the would-be candidates alongwith the people in the courts, hospital and marriage parties renewing their contacts and relations. At some places the candidates were trying to soften their opponents in a bid to seek a chance to return unopposed.

The pre-election activities were more visible in the rural areas. — APP

PAKISTAN

BALLOT BOXES FOR ELECTIONS SAID READY

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 29--Ballot boxes are now ready to be put for polling for the national and provincial assemblies, the oiling, painting and cleaning of the ballot boxes have been completed and a booklet is being published to train the polling staff how to operate the ballot boxes.

A ballot box would be put at every polling booth after sealing it in the presence of the polling agents while at least one ballot box would be kept in spare at every polling booth.

The ballot box has been designed Foolproof to prevent any kind of malpractices in the polling and to ensure impartial and fair polling. A common man can neither open nor close the specially designed ballot box.

The ballot boxes would be desealed in the presence of polling agents after polling for counting of votes and if counting was held on the next day it will be opened next day also.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission has made alternate arrangements to meet any shortfall of the ballot boxes. Most of the ballot boxes were manufactured for the holding of the elections in 1979 but new ballot boxes have also been manufactured this time for the holding of the forthcoming elections.--PPI

CSO: 4600/121

TRADE WITH NEPAL TO EXPAND, PROTOCOL SIGNED

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 29--Pakistan and Nepal have signed a protocol at the end of two-day deliberations of the second meeting of Pak-Nepal Joint Ministerial Commission here this evening.

The protocol was signed on behalf of Nepal by Dr P.C. Lohani, the Minister for Finance and leader of Nepal's delegation to the Joint Commission meeting.

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the Federal Finance Minister, who led Pakistan's delegation to the Joint Commission signed the document on behalf of Pakistan.

The Joint Commission reviewed the development of trade between the two countries. It was also decided to encourage regular and frequent exchange of trade delegations.

The two sides identified that items like cotton yarn, textile, finished leather and leather products, machinery and engineering goods, chemical and pharmaceutical products, urea fertiliser etc., could be exported from Pakistan to Nepal.

Similarly Nepal can export to Pakistan items like jute goods, large cardamom, ginger, medical herbs, ghee, pulses, tea, oil seeds, vegetable seeds, etc.

In the field of agriculture, the Joint Commission identified following areas of co-operation on priority basis.

These are: (a) exchange of germplasm including field crops, horticulture crops and livestock (b) exchange of visits of scientists and participation in seminars and workshops (c) exchange of scientific information and literature.

In the field of industry, the Nepalese delegation stated that they would like to make cotton--its production, processing and manufacturing of textiles as the focal point of co-operation between Nepal and Pakistan.

Nepalese delegation sought Pakistan's assistance in setting up of a textile development and training centre in Nepal as well as setting up of a common facility centre for the powerloom industry in Nepal.

The Pakistan delegation agreed to assist the Nepalese Government in setting up of these two institutions in Nepal provided satisfactory funding arrangements could be made through some international agency.

In response to Nepalese delegation's suggestion for training facilities in technical fields, the Pakistan delegation agreed to provide some additional training facilities for Nepalese technicians in the textile industry research and development centre, national college of textile engineering and Pakistan industrial technical assistance centre and also to allocate some additional seats to Nepalese students in the Faisalabad Agricultural University.

The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction that the two national airlines have already started direct service twice a week between Pakistan and Nepal.

The Joint Commission agreed that there should be more frequent cultural exchanges between the two countries.

The Commission also noted the acceptance with gratitude by the Pakistan delegation for the training of Pakistan mountaineering guides and high altitude porters.--APP

CSO: 4600/121

PLANNING MINISTER TALKS ABOUT SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 p 6

[Article by Ejaz Hashmat Khan]

[Text] Faisalabad--The Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Dr Mehbubul Haq, has disclosed that a bio-technical institute would shortly be set up in the country costing Rs 192 million which include an operating expenditure of Rs 50 million. He said that the proposed project in the field of science and technology is at the final stage of planning. The scheme would be sanctioned next month while the institute would start functioning next year.

In an exclusive interview with this Correspondent, the Minister said here the other day that he had opportunity to discuss the project of this institute of biology and technology with foreign experts. This Institute is being set up during the Sixth Plan period by the Government and the proposed institute will be headed by Dr Zimmerman.

Giving his impressions about his visit to Nuclear Institute of Agriculture and Biology, he said that this Institute is planning a vital role in the development of the country. He said: "I have myself assessed the research activities of the NIAB and am of the opinion that NIAB is exceptionally one of the best wide-ranged and best managed institutes." He said that he discussed activities of the Institute in the presence of Dr Munir Ahmad, Chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission. The Director-General of the NIAB, Dr Naqvi, he said, had expressed the view that this institute developed some new high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties of cotton, gram, wheat and rice. "I was particularly impressed by the experiments of developing the new cotton variety (NIAB 78)," he added.

The Minister said that last year about 40 percent of the cotton crop in our country was damaged because of major pest attack and the yield of cotton in NIAB area was intact. This new variety of cotton, he added, could withstand major national calamities. He disclosed that small farmers were using this new variety in cultivating more than 40 percent areas. He further said that similar was the case with gram which was subjected to blight but the new varieties evolved by NIAB made it blight-proof which is indeed a major achievement of the NIAB.

Fruit Protection

Dr Mehbubul Haq said that the Institute conducted a lot of experiments on fruits and vegetables. These products are preserved by radiation and could be preserved even for a longer period so that fruits and vegetables could be stored for few months and exported to foreign countries without deterioration. He said this radiation technique evolved by NIAB will also be used for medical supplies including surgery instruments, etc., which will help increase their value.

The Minister said the conspicuous results in research by NIAB will be examined by the Planning Commission and also get ADB to join with Atomic Energy Commission to market this technology. He said that this could make a major breakthrough in exporting potato and onion. He said it will also benefit the farmers to get bumper crops and store these products.

Kallar Grass

The Minister pointed out that the third fascinating fact not known in the country is the cultivation of those crops which can be grown in saline soil. He said that since last two days he was touring various areas of the Punjab affected by water logging and salinity. The Minister disclosed that NIAB has successfully developed 'kallar grass' to be used as fodder as well as a source for energy production. He said that 'kallar' grass can also change the environment of the region and make the salined land fit for cultivation. He disclosed that Government of the Punjab has shown willingness to provide a thousand acres of salined land near Dera Gnazi Khan for cultivation of 'kallar' grass on extensive scale. He said if experiment succeeds this can revolutionise the prospects of saline and backward areas.

According to him, NIAB is also growing barley in saline soils. He said that various foreign experts have seen these experiments and they believe that Pakistan is far ahead of other countries in developing this new technique.

Massive Funds

In reply to a question, Dr Mehbubul Haq said that during the Sixth Plan period a huge amount of Rs 6,000 millions has been allocated for the science and technology which include the agriculture, nuclear, industrial and other fields. He said the allocation is five times more than the Fifth Plan.

Replying to another question, the Minister said that after implementation of the Sixth Plan the per capita income in Pakistan would increase by 25 percent which shall be a record increase in a developing country like Pakistan.

Regarding foreign collaboration in setting up joint industrial units in Pakistan, the Minister said that numerous countries including Japan, Korea, Germany and the United States have shown inclination to set up joint venture of engineering in private sector. Similarly, the foreign

investors were trying to assist Pakistan in establishing joint ventures in the agro-based industries, especially the setting up of fruit and vegetable processing units and meat production. He pointed out that ADB has given an advance of huge funds for ventures in the country in collaboration with foreign investors. He said during the current Plan period the ADB will also provide substantial soft-term loan for this purpose.

CSO: 4600/121

PAKISTAN

S. KOREAN AMBASSADOR TERMS AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS 'BRIGHT'

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 p 6

[Text] Multan, Nov 29--The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Pakistan Mr Jay Hee Oh said here the other day that judging by the vast agricultural resources, irrigation water, Pakistanis can easily bring about the kind of green revolution which the planners have in mind.

The Ambassador told newsmen that the economy of the country was based on agriculture because there was excellent land available and the required water too. It should be possible, he added, to develop the rural areas in such a manner as to prevent people from trekking to urban centres. With the setting up of cottage and small industries in the countryside, people will have little reason to go to big cities and towns, especially if recreation facilities are also created for them.

Mr Jay Hee Oh pointed out that the Korean Government initiated its Community Development Programme in 1970 and had achieved great success. By setting up small industries in villages the authorities solved the country's employment problem, he said.

The Ambassador expressed the view that Pakistan could generate electricity power by using its vast resources.

CSO: 4600/121

MINISTER SAYS RECORD COTTON OUTPUT EXPECTED

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 p 16

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 29--The Minister for Food and Agriculture, Vice-Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua, said today that a bumper cotton crop with a record production was expected this year.

Talking to the newsmen after presiding over the morning session of the Management Accountants International Conference, he said that the final figures of the cotton crop production were not available as yet. But, he added, according to the reports received from the cotton growing areas of the Punjab and Sind the crop production was expected to be all time high.

Vice-Admiral Janjua said that the government was now concentrating to ensure that the target production of 13.3 million ton wheat was achieved this year. The target area of wheat cultivation is 17 million acres.

He said that the recent showers had provided enough moisture in the rain-fed area to enable the wheat growers to sow wheat.

Similarly, he added, chances of achieving the target of sowing in the irrigated areas were expected to be achieved during the next 15 days.

Vice-Admiral Janjua said that efforts were being made to increase the application of fertiliser by eight to 10 percent this year over the last year's consumption of fertiliser by wheat growers.

The Minister said that the price of fertiliser remained unchanged this year and no reduction in the government subsidy in fertiliser price had been effected so as to avoid resistance in the use of fertiliser by the growers.

In order to make available adequate supply of water, he said WAPDA had been directed to schedule load-shedding of electricity in such a manner that the normal functioning of tubewells was not hampered. Likewise, arrangements had been made for the smooth supply of diesel in the interest of normal functioning of the diesel-driven tubewells.

As the government was keenly interested in enabling the wheat growers, particularly the small growers with limited means, to apply the requisite inputs in prescribed quantity the availability of the inputs had been dove-tailed by liberal credit facilities.

CSO: 4600/121

PLAN FOR SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH TERMED 'AMBITIOUS'

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I

[Text]

KARACHI, Dec 8: An ambitious research and development programme for 1984-5 covering 210 projects has been prepared by the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR) for implementation by its different laboratories in the country.

The PCSIR sources said that in all about 600 scientists, engineers and technologists of PCSIR would be involved in the programme which is another step towards making this premier research institution goal oriented and building its credibility among industrialists.

Subjects to be covered by the Karachi laboratories focus on applied biology, marine resources, dyes and pigments technology, synthetic drugs, bio-chemical investigations, polymer research, water conservation, appropriate building techniques and safe drinking water technology etc.

Lahore laboratories will be undertaking research and development on oil processing industry, essence and flavours, inorganic chemicals, food technology, slag forming mixture for steel making, glass and ceramics, while the Peshawar laboratories have been assigned subjects relating to natural drugs, mineral technology, agro-based and rural technology etc.

Coals

One of the important goals of the programme is to facilitate the use of indigenous coal to meet energy needs. Fuel Research Centre, Karachi, is engaged in carrying out

research on preparation, desulphurisation and briquetting of coals and decarbonisation for production of coke, smokeless fuels etc. The projects under study and planned for the future include: smokeless coals briquettes, preparation of inexpensive binder for the smokeless char production unit, fabrication of briquetting press and other machinery etc.

Studies will also be carried out on coal conversion, gasification, coal combustion, coal water emulsion dust in the main ingredient for the fabrication of battery containers.

Extruder

An important assignment for Pak-Swiss Training Centre, Karachi, will be to research on a design of PVC profile extruder, which is under development and fabrication. This is pioneering work for producing profiles in plastic so as to minimise the use of steel, brass, aluminium and wood. Presently, metallic sections are utilised for doors, windows, furniture etc. The extruder will be using a better and economical substitute of plaster as raw material.

The Solar Energy Cell at Lahore and Hyderabad is exclusively devoted to development of solar appliances and equipment which can be fabricated with the resources of the present technological base of the country. Concept of solar architecture both in active and passive fields are being developed for contemporary materials and practices in the designing of houses and buildings.

BODY SET UP FOR COOPERATION WITH UNESCO

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Nov 84 p 2

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov 29: The Federal Government has decided to establish a commission for cooperation with Unesco as an autonomous organisation, an official announcement said.

The commission, with headquarters at Islamabad, will be called the "Pakistan National Commission for Cooperation with Unesco (PNCU).

The aims and objectives of the commission will be:

- To formulate the policy and lay down the principles of cooperation between the Government of Pakistan and Unesco;

- To make recommendations to the Government for the promotion of the programmes of Unesco and its affiliated organisations in Pakistan;

- To supervise the implementation of Unesco programmes in Pakistan;

- To keep liaison and act as a coordinating agency between Unesco and various educational, scientific and cultural organisations in Pakistan; and

- To collaborate with the national commissions of Asia and the Pacific and with Unesco's regional offices and centres in fostering regional, sub-regional and bilateral cooperation in education, science, culture and information, particularly through the joint formulation and execution of programmes.

The functions of the commission will include:

- To receive all communications and recommendations from Unesco and take initiative to obtain

recommendations and decisions in respect of these matters from the concerned ministries and organisations;

- To establish consultative relations with the non-Governmental organisations which are of direct and specific relevance to the commission's fields of competence;

- To develop guidelines for initiating, coordinating and promoting Unesco's aims and objectives in Pakistan and ensure Pakistan's intellectual contributions to Unesco's efforts aimed at implementing its programmes as adopted by Unesco general conference;

- To ensure liaison with, and participation of, individuals and institutions of competence in the fields of education, science, culture and mass communication; and

- To provide expert knowledge and advisory services to the concerned ministries and organisations in the field of science, education, culture and mass communications.

The Government will constitute a board of governors, spelling out its functions and powers to manage the affairs of the commission. The Minister in charge of the Education Ministry will be the president of the board.

Federal Education secretary will be its vice president. The president will appoint the secretary-general.

There will be an executive committee headed by the president of the commission.

MINORITIES LAUD RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Nov 84 p 3

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov 29: Members of the National Advisory Council for Minorities, currently in the city for the meeting of the Council, have expressed their utmost satisfaction over the political, religious and social freedom available to them in Pakistan.

Interviewed by 'APP', they thanked President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq for the measures he was adopting towards the effective solution of problems faced by minorities in the country.

According to the latest figures, minorities in Pakistan now constitute 3.32 per cent of the total population. The Christians with 1.55 per cent population are the largest minority, followed by Hindus with 1.51 per cent. The other significant minorities are Parsees, Buddhist and Qadianis.

The members were glad that the Majlis-i-Shoora also includes mem-

bers of minorities and most of them took active part in proceedings of the House and made rich contributions in its deliberations. The steps taken by the Government for the amelioration of their lot have also been lauded by members. They noted that the welfare and constitutional rights of minorities have received consistent attention of the Government. A separate wing for this purpose has been created within the Ministry of Religious and Minorities Affairs.

They also referred to Government measures in setting up the Advisory Council for Minorities Affairs, consisting of 10 official and 20 non-official members, representing different communities to look after their welfare.

They also mentioned the creation of Minorities Committees at district levels, to look into day-to-day problems faced by minorities.

Reference was also made to the

Government's measure to float a Pakistan Minorities Welfare Fund. It was further appreciated that a scheme has been initiated for the grant of scholarships to deserving students of minority communities, and a sum of Rs three million have been earmarked for the purpose.

They were glad that an amount of Rs 0.5 million has been allocated for the up-lift of Kalash Kafirs residing in the far-flung hilly area of the Chitral District.

They also referred to the establishment of an Evacuee Trust Property Board, by the Government, which looks after evacuee trust properties and maintains important shrines and Gurdwaras. Furthermore they were glad over the necessary arrangements made by the Pakistan Government for the visits of Yatrees from India.—APP

CSO: 4600/122

ISLAMIZATION OF BANKS SAID BEGUN

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Nov 84 Business Review p I

Text]

KARACHI, Nov. 29: To build an ideal Islamic Society based on the principles of Al-Adl Wal-Ahsan (Justice and Equity), Pakistan has initiated the process of transforming its banking and financial system from interest-basis to profit and loss sharing (PLS). It was in conformity with Quranic injunctions of prohibiting Riba, said Mr. D.M. Qureshi, Managing Director, Bankers Equity, says a Press release.

He was speaking at a seminar on "Islamisation of Banking" today in Karachi under the aegis of the Institute of Bankers in Pakistan.

PLS will not only help capital formation, but also transform the Islamic banks from creditors to partners, he added. Since financing in the Islamic framework is equity-oriented, risk of the banks increases manifold under this system. The financial institutions in Pakistan, however, are engaged in developing techniques to synchronise Islamic tenets and business needs of modern world, Mr. Qureshi said.

Gradual process

In the absence of a model of an Islamic economy, the process of Is-

lamisation of the financial system will proceed gradually and necessarily will have to be reshaped within the hard realities of the present socio-economic set-up, he further added.

Speaking on the topic in detail he underlined the key role of capital in the development of a modern economy. Capital must, however, be efficiently used to achieve optimal results both in terms of utilisation and maximum welfare of the citizens. He further observed that the prevailing mechanism of interest is the root cause of exploitation of one segment of society by another.

New techniques

Although considerable progress has been made in Pakistan to evolve new techniques and instruments of capital financing in the Islamic context, he, however, noted that there are still several issues of theoretical and practical nature which remain unresolved. How, for instance, should the redeemable capital be compensated in the initial stages while the project is in the implementation stage and in early phase of operation. Similarly, what premium should be allowed for the factor of management.

NAVY SAID REPLACING OLD SHIPS

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 p 8

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov 30: Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan, Chief of the Naval Staff, said here on Friday that the present Government was taking keen interest in the development of Pakistan Navy and doing its utmost to equip it with most modern weapons, says an ISPR press release.

Admiral T.K. Khan was addressing serving and retired officers, chief petty officers, petty officers and sailors of the Pakistan Navy at PNS Karsaz on the opening day of the fourth Naval Reunion being held here.

The Chief of the Naval Staff said efforts were underway to include certain new ships in the PN fleet besides modernising the existing units. He said during the last few years the Pakistan Navy had replaced its old ships with comparatively new ones.

The Chief of Naval Staff disclosed that Pakistan should soon be able to acquire the capability to construct its own naval vessels. He thanked President Gen. Zia-ul-Haq, for his support in making the Pakistan Navy an effective force.

Appreciating the en masse

participation of retired and serving personnel in the naval reunion, Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan said that it was indicative of their deep attachment, respect and love for their service. He asked serving personnel to make the best use of the experience of their predecessors.

He also mentioned various measures being taken by the Pakistan Navy for the well-being and honourable settlement of retired Naval personnel.

Captain (Retd) Amir Aslam, speaking on the occasion, thanked the Chief of Naval Staff and the serving officers on behalf of the retired naval personnel for inviting them to the reunion, and for introducing various welfare schemes for them.

Later the Chief of the Naval Staff accompanied the retired naval personnel for a sea cruise on board PNS Babur and other ships of the fleet.

An exercise demonstration was arranged on the occasion, in which various units of the fleet, including the aviation wing and submarines, participated.

SLUM COLONIES: IMPROVEMENT URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 p 7

[Text]

EVERY city of any size in the country has to contend with the problem of katchi abadis, those large slums formed by squatters. In the larger cities, like Lahore, Hyderabad, Faisalabad or Karachi the problems is obviously of very large proportions. In fact, the population involved in each of these is in itself sufficient to make up a fair-sized town — in Lahore the number of people living in katchi abadis is put at 200,000, whereas in Karachi it is likely to be over two millions. An underlying reason why residents fail to do enough to improve their houses is that they have not been given ownership. Despite the fact that some of these slums have been in existence for a couple of decades or more, the authorities have not deemed it necessary to regularise all of them. The result, naturally, is that not only are many devoid of most of the basic services and facilities, but the residents themselves are not too keen on making substantial investments in their houses. Regularising of katchi abadis and grant of proprietary rights, on the other hand, has been seen to result in appreciable improvements, partially because this also leads to provision of more facilities by city authorities.

A ministerial meeting which recently reviewed the matter of implementing of Government decisions about katchi abadis also took note of some of the difficulties involved in improving such settlements. One main problem is the lack of sufficient finances. In Sind alone, more than Rs 2.5 billion is needed to carry out improvement and development work in 884 katchi abadis in the Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur divisions. In Punjab, too, very considerable resources are required for development work to be done in 545 katchi abadis. Some of this money can no doubt be generated in the form of taxes and special development costs to be paid by the residents. In the long run residents will be paying off the entire amount involved, so the authorities only have to worry about the initial heavy investment. Considering the great benefits that result through such uplift works — including an improvement in the health of the residents — the authorities should not delay in taking up such programmes. Some problems may be encountered in granting proprietary rights, since there is considerable dispute over ownership at times, but such snags are not impossible to resolve.

IDEOLOGY COUNCIL ISSUES QUESTIONNAIRE ON WOMEN'S STATUS

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Dec 84 p 10

[Text]

KARACHI, Dec 4: In a questionnaire sent to men and women from different walks of life, the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) has sought to elicit their opinion on women's status in Islam.

Thirteen questions have been asked about women's role in society and religion. The questions touch nearly every aspect of women's life — including purdah, motherhood, employment, rights, equality with men and education.

Most questions have a strong sexist bias and have been framed in a manner highly prejudicial to women. Some begin with an anti-feminist observation followed by a question. One question has been put as follows:

— پاکستان میں مغرب زدہ افراد اپنی مذہبی خواہشات کی تکمیل کے لئے، سنی، حکام کے برعکس خواتین کو آزادی کے ناکہ پتھر سے باہر نکل کر شمع محفل بنانا چاہتے ہیں اور اسے کھریلو زہر داریوں کے ساتھ ساتھ معاشی ذمہ داریاں بھی سونپ دینا چاہتے ہیں۔ آپ کے خیال میں اس غیر فطری طرز عمل سے ایک معاشرہ میں کیا خرابیاں رُو بہ رُو ہو سکتی ہیں۔

"To satisfy their own lusts, westernised individuals in Pakistan want to bring women out of their homes and make them the centre of attraction in society in negation of Islamic instructions. They wish to thrust on woman economic responsibilities in addition to her family responsibilities. In your opinions, what weaknesses will result in an Islamic society because of this unnatural approach?"

The first question goes: "What

are the roles of men and women in society in view of their natural qualities and compulsions? In recognition of the law of nature, how do the Quran and Sunnah separate woman's role from that of man? When does an imbalance occur in this division of roles, and because of this disequilibrium to what weaknesses does society fall prey?"

Another says: "When we speak of men and women shouldering responsibility together, what do we mean? In your opinion, from what weaknesses does a society suffer when men and women work together? When a woman abandons her role and assumes a man's role, upsetting the pattern of division of labour, what problems does society face?"

عورت اور مرد کے شانہ بشانہ کام کرنے کا مفہوم کیا ہے؟ آپ کے خیال میں دونوں کے شانہ بشانہ کام کرنے سے معاشرے میں کیا خرابیاں رونما ہوتی ہیں؟ عورت اپنے دائرہ کار کو چھوڑ کر مرد کے دائرہ کار میں دھنسل ہو جائے تو تقسیم کار نظام درہم برہم ہونے سے معاشرہ میں مسائل کا شکار ہو جائے گا۔

The last question seeks suggestions for segregating women's role from men's in every sphere of life.

In another question, the propriety of girl guides and paramilitary forces for women has been questioned. "How can such institutions be reconciled with the Islamic law regarding purdah (such as prevention of contact with male strangers)?" the questionnaire seeks to know.

NETWORK OF NEW INDUSTRIAL UNITS FOR SIND PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I

[Text]

KARACHI, Dec 8: Sind Government has taken up a big programme for the establishment of small industrial estates in all the districts of the Province to have a network of industrial units with the twin-pronged objective of providing avenues of employment to local labour force and the fruitful exploitation of raw materials available there in abundance, writes an APP correspondent.

The present Government during the last seven-and-a-half years, has taken positive steps to provide incentives to the entrepreneurs in the form of tax holiday etc to accelerate the pace of investment in the industrial estates. The announcement of holiday in several districts of the Province during 1983 had a salutary effect, consolidating the position of investment in the industrial estates at Sukkur and Larkana and industrial parks at Mirpurkhas and Dadu. No less than 155 factories have sprung up there, providing employment to 1660 people.

In addition, more small industrial estates were set up by the Sind Government in Taluka Kandkhot, in district Jacobabad, and in Shikarpur and Dadu, which enjoyed the tax holiday.

An eleven-acre land has been acquired for the industrial estate in Dadu, 30 acres for Shikarpur and 15 acres of land for Kandkhot. In those places, 45, 96 and 50 plots would be provided respectively for industrial units.

Basic facilities

Basic infrastructure such as water, roads, power and drainage have been arranged for those in-

dustrial estates. All the plots in Dadu industrial estate have already been allotted. Allotment of plots in Shikarpur estate is in the process.

Estate officers have been appointed to attract and encourage the local entrepreneurs in the establishment of agro small industrial units. Industrial profiles have also been provided to them. The industrial profiles have been endorsed by the Investment Advisory Centre of Pakistan containing information about the working capital, provision of loans and organisations, providing machinery and raw materials.

Investment guides in Sindhi, Urdu and English have also been provided to the estate offices, heads of local administration and local councils. With the completion of the industrial estates in those places, jobs would be provided to 1,200 persons.

Basic facilities have been provided for 100 plots on 30 acres of land for the industrial estate at Mirpurkhas. At least 30 industrial units would be completed during the current fiscal year, providing jobs to at least 350 persons.

Selection of sites

Industrial estates are being set up at Nawabshah, Badin and Khairpur districts at a cost of Rs. 33.615 million. The selection of sites for the three estates has been done by a committee comprising the Deputy Commissioners, Chairmen, District Councils and representatives of WAPDA, Irrigation Department, Sui Gas Company and the Sind Small Industries Corporation. Plots of 30 acres have

been acquired from private parties for industrial estate in Badin, 50 acres for Khairpur estate and also 50 acres for Nawabshah. During the current fiscal year, 10 to 15 acre plots would be developed with the provision of roads, power, water and other basic facilities. It is expected that at least 15 industrial units would be completed by the end of the current financial year, providing jobs for 250 people in each estate.

Work on priority basis is underway to complete the provision of basic necessities in the industrial estates at Sukkur, Larkana, Sehwan, Mirpurkhas and other areas to accelerate the growth of small industrial units.

CSO: 4600/136

SIND TO HAVE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I

[Text]

MIRPUR KHAS, Dec. 4: Sind Industrial Development Board will be constituted latest by January, 1985, to guide and provide necessary assistance to local investors in setting up small industries in the province.

This was stated by the Provincial Industries Minister, Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah, while addressing a Press conference here on Tuesday.

He said that the present Government was taking steps to establish small industries estates in every district of the Province. Local investors will be given preference in setting up industries in these estates, he added.

He stated that four new technical centres were being established at Dadu, Badin, Khipro and Nawabshah during 1984-85. He said that two such centres were already functioning at Mirpur Khas and Ghotki.

About industrial development programme in Tharparkar district, he said that work in local industrial park was well in progress.

He appealed to local Zamindars to invest in agro industries.

Earlier, he visited the Agriculture Market Technical Training Centre.

CSO: 4600/134

PLAN FORMULATED TO DEVELOP COAL

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Dec 5: Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation (PMDC) has embarked on a long-term coal development programme, costing Rs. 4,294 million to step up exploration of coal deposits and increase annual coal output to 2.4 million tonnes, by the end of the Sixth Plan period, official sources told APP here on Wednesday.

Presently, PMDC is implementing a scheme aimed at increasing the production capacity of Makerwal collieries from 120,000 to 300,000 tonnes per annum by the end of June, 1988. The project is expected to be completed by 1988.

The PMDC, it is noted, is operating four coal mines — at Makerwal in the Punjab, and Degari, Sor Range, and Sharigh in Baluchistan. These mines, which have been in operation for the last six years, are beset with the problems of deeper mining, depletion of reserves and tough mining conditions. As a result, production from them has declined over the years. In spite of various technical handicaps, the PMDC produced 171,632 tonnes of coal during 1982-83. During the first nine months of fiscal year 1983-84, it produced 142,988 tonnes of coal, which compared favourably with 129,132 tonnes produced during the corresponding period, last year.

Expansion of Sharigh

Meanwhile, the expansion scheme of Sharigh collieries, costing Rs 32.506 million, is aimed at increasing the production capacity of the mines to 100,000 tonnes per annum. The scheme is scheduled to be completed by June, 1985. The entire production of 100,000 tonnes will be supplied to the Sharigh

washing plant, set up by the PMDC at a cost of Rs 31.00 million. The washed coal will be supplied to the Pakistan Steel for use as the blend with imported coking coal for making metallurgical coke.

The PMDC is also implementing a development plan for the development of a coal mine at Lakhra in Sind for a sustained production of 200,000 tonnes of coal per annum. The scheme is scheduled for completion by the end of June 1988.

Model mine

Meanwhile, the PMDC and the WAPDA have been jointly working on a plan for the development of a model mechanised coal mine at Lakhra for a sustained production of 1.4 million tonnes of coal per annum to cater to the requirement of the proposed 300 M.W. coal-based thermal power plant, to be set up at Jamshoro. The feasibility of the project will be ready by the end of the next year.

The PMDC has also submitted a Rs. 25.888 million scheme aimed at increasing capacity of Degari collieries from 60,000 tonnes to 90,000 tonnes by the end of 1987-88.

Exploratory drilling to prove mineable coal reserves in the area, near Degari, in Baluchistan, is also in progress. A new mine will be developed with a production capacity of 90,000 tonnes per annum, provided sizeable mineable reserves are established in the area. The PMDC has also initiated work on the feasibility study of producing smokeless briquettes from lignite coal for domestic heating. The briquettes will substitute the kerosene oil for domestic consumption.

OVERSEAS WORKERS: EFFECT OF DECREASE IN NUMBERS ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English Supplement 2 Dec 84 p I

[Article by Izharul Hasan Burney]

[Text]

DEMAND for expatriate workers in the United Arab Emirates continues to shrink steadily as the country's developmental infrastructure near completion and the surpluses from the oil revenues decline.

According to statistics, inflow of overseas workers into the UAE dropped by nearly 45 per cent in five years from 1977 to 1981. During the same period, the number of cancelled work visas more than doubled.

GCC policy

Figures for 1982 and 1983 are not yet available but it is believed that the double squeeze has tightened further as the effects of economic recession and the big budgetary cuts became more pronounced both in the public and the private sectors.

Also because the first set of laws regulating the import of manpower from abroad was promulgated in 1980 and enforcement became more stringent towards the end of 1982.

Besides, the authorities started rigid enforcement in letter and spirit of the Gulf Cooperation Council decision to ensure at least 30 per cent new jobs for non-UAE Arab workers. At the same time, more UAE nationals became available and had the first claim.

The following table shows at a glance the growing imbalance between the grant of new work visas and the cancelled work permits during 1977-81:

Year	New permits	Cancelled permits
1977	226,509	41,359
1978	164,401	67,165
1979	120,109	78,091
1980	195,941	106,315
1981	88,358	145,557

Traditionally, Indian labour has dominated the UAE manpower scene, the percentage being about half the total number of job-seekers arriving each year. Vis-a-vis Pakistan also, the number of Indian workers has always been about the double.

Thus, for example, out of a total of 145,557 new work visas issued in 1981, Indian expatriate workers got the lion's share of 63,695 against Pakistan's 33,946. Egypt was third with 7,434, followed by Bangladesh (4,764), Britain (4,248), Philippines (3,841), Iran (2,315), Sri Lanka (1,801), and USA (1,004).

On the other hand, the number of illegal Pakistani emigrants deported from UAE in seven years (1974-80) was 20,571. They completely outstripped the other nationalities, including Indians (2,364) and the Iranians (3,492).

The trend of the 1982 and 1983 is also indicated by the figures available with the Pakistani mission in Dubai according to which new work visas issued for the Northern Emirates (i.e. excluding Abu Dhabi) totalled a little over 11,000 in 1982 but dropped to about 8,500 in 1983.

Remittances

According to sources, in the first nine months of 1984 the total number of Pakistani workers arriving in Abu Dhabi Emirate was 4,028 as against 6,424 who left the emirate during the same period following the cancellation of their work visas, i.e. an imbalance of about 50 per cent.

The fact that more Pakistani workers are now returning home than those going to UAE is also supported by the volume of remittances.

Figures available for four agencies (UBL, Habib, National Bank and Mansur Al Habib Exchange Co) show total remittances of 151.693 million dollars during 1983 as against 111.95 million dollars for Jan-Sept 1984 (nine months) i.e. more or less unchanged.

However, two elements play an important part in determining the volume of remittances. These are: (i) bigger amounts collected by the returning workers in full and final settlement of their claims including gratuity, and (ii) remittance of such amounts through banks instead of the usual 'hundi' channel. (This phenomenon has been attributed to the obvious inability of the remitter to follow-up matter with 'hundi' dealer once he leaves the country for good.)

But for above two factors, the total remittances for 1983 as well as for 1984 would have been lower, experts agree.

The factors which play an important role in the absorption potential of expatriate workers in the UAE include —

- (a) Their field of specialisation;
- (b) Competitive wage structure for different nationalities; and
- (c) Ease and speed at which a foreign worker can be air-lifted to the site.

Fields of domination

Pakistani workers have traditionally dominated some economic sectors like transport and automobiles; agriculture, forestry and

horticulture; banking; and unskilled or semi-skilled jobs requiring high degree of stamina and physical fitness. They are rated very high in these sectors and are rarely challenged by other nationalities.

However, a recent development has been the replacement, rather slowly, of many Pakistani bankers by personnel from other nationalities including the Indians for host of considerations, besides the policy of multi-nationalism now being followed by a few major groups.

The automobile sector has suffered much owing to the economic recession; masons and carpenters etc are few in demand on account of the state of the construction industry which is in crisis.

Technology is making a serious dent in the monopoly position of the unskilled Pakistani workers as many companies now deploy earth-moving machinery and equipment instead of human labour for speed and economy — at least where such machinery could be easily transported.

But the position of Pakistani workers remains almost unchanged in the field of agriculture, forestry and horticulture which demands the highest degree of human endurance and ability to live in deserts and far off places.

The wage structure laid down by the Pakistan Government for its emigrant worker in the UAE is not uncompetitive. It is Dh 600 p.m. for the unskilled worker which is more or less the same for the Sri Lankans, Indians and Bangladeshis but is higher in comparison to those from the Philippines, Indonesians etc. whose governments have prescribed the minimum wage at Dh 500.

The Dh 1,190 p.m. minimum wage for skilled worker, Dh 1,315 for the highly skilled, and Dh 2,500 for the professional Pakistani worker is also quite competitive.

What however puts Pakistan in a grossly dis-advantageous position is the sickening red-tape involved at home in finalising the despatch of the worker.

The UAE employer is usually in a hurry, often because he has to complete the project within the specified period at the pain of the punitive clause of the agreement.

The long time consumed by the authorities in Pakistan in processing each case is, therefore, the main deterrent causing serious setbacks.

Capital works

This must be reviewed urgently in the face of the changed labour situation in the Middle East as a whole. Otherwise, manpower export from Pakistan will inevitably suffer a great deal.

A new trend is the policy of self-reliance on the part of the public sector agencies. The major industry of the UAE is oil-based. In Abu Dhabi, the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and similar other companies are now trying to take up major projects without floating international tenders.

Pakistan's Dawood Group recently got the major contract for operation of an ADNOC project and have earned marks for efficient handling. More of such possibilities exist and should be explored so that maximum number of Pakistani workers are engaged.

The ADNOC will soon take up the 500 million dollar cross-country oil pipeline (48-inch diameter, capacity half a million barrels) from Abu Dhabi to the eastern coast of Fujeirah.

The Pak-Arab Refinery Ltd (PARCO) — a Pakistan-UAE joint venture — which laid a similar pipeline from Karachi to Multan has acquired the know-how and can justifiably undertake to play some part in this new ambitious project of the Abu Dhabi Emirate. This can be explored at this very stage.

There are many other similar projects including the natural gas domestic supply network scheme of Sharjah, for which initial studies were made by the Karachi Gas Company. This should be pursued more vigorously as it involves not only the capital works but also its continued maintenance and operation on agency basis.

BRIEFS

KALABAGH DAM DESIGNS--Karachi, Dec 2--The Kalabah Dam, estimated to cost Rs 44,263 million and planned to be built across the Indus River is now in its design finalisation stage, it is learnt. In accordance with the construction schedule, the pre-qualification of prospective contractors is expected to be completed by the end of 1985. Tender documents to the pre-qualified contractors would be issued in November 1985. The evaluation of the bids, processing and the final award would be completed during June 1986 to June 1987. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p 1]

CHINA OFFERS CONSUMER OUTPUT UNIT--Karachi, Dec 2--China has offered its assistance to Pakistan in setting up consumer products industry based on soyabean and its meal, official sources said here. The sources said that there is a considerable scope for setting up projects based on herbal medicines, dehydration of vegetables, paper/pulp mills, mini-motorised threshers and jute machinery. Prospective entrepreneurs have been advised to send their specific proposals direct to the Research Officer, Ministry of Industries, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad under intimation to the federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry.--ADP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p 1]

TOYOTA-MORRIS VENTURE FINALIZED--Sialkot, Dec 2--Joint ventures for the production of Toyota and Morris cars have been finalised and assembling plants would soon start functioning in the country, said Sheikh Ishrat Ali, Adviser to the President. Addressing a Press conference here, he said that the Morris plant, which had almost been completed, was expected to start production in the near future, whereas agreement for the setting up of Toyota car plant had been signed and work on it would start soon. He added that the Suzuki car plant would begin producing a car of bigger size, having 1,000 C.C. and 1300 C.C. engines shortly. These ventures, he said, would go a long way in stabilising national economy, as billions in foreign exchange would be saved, which be utilised on other development projects. The President's Adviser said that the present Government under the dynamic leadership of Gen Zia-ul-Haq had planned to set up at least one industrial estate in each big city, in order to promote cottage industries. Beside this, he added, a network of medium-size industries had been established throughout the country, with special consideration to backward areas. These industries would not only solve the problem of unemployment, but would also help save a lot of foreign exchange. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p 1]

ITALY OFFERS JOINT VENTURES--Lahore, Dec 2--Italy has offered a package of long-term cooperation for joint ventures in a variety of industrial projects proposed to be set up in Pakistan. Dr Giorgio Cattani, representing Italian Government (FATA group) on Sunday visited Lahore Chamber and put a long list of joint ventures before Mr Mushtaq Ahmad, President of the LCCI. Dr Chattani said he had already met officials and representatives of the private sector in Islamabad and was hopeful about immediate progress. The list of projects included joint ventures in food industry, such as prepared frozen-concentrates used in processing, packaging and represervation of milk, Tomato and Tomato juices, packaging material from aluminium and steel foils, slaughter houses, with the facilities of storage and packing of meat. Other items in the list were precooked food, powdered milk, plastic bottles for preserving freshness of liquid and semi-liquid food. Later, British Consul-General and the Counsellor, Commerce and Economics, Mr Brain Watkin, also visited the Chamber and exchanged views of mutual interest with the Executive Committee members. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I]

PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH ECONOMIC BODY--Karachi, Dec 2--The Federal Government approved the formation of Pakistan-Bangladesh Joint Economic Cooperation Committee, official sources said here. The agreement was recently signed by the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry with its counterparts in Bangladesh recently. The Joint Committee will comprise 30 members from each side. Pakistan side will consist of ten importers of goods from Bangladesh, 10 exporters of goods to Bangladesh and ten industrialists and investors. The Federation has requested to furnish the nominations direct to them by Dec 15. The applications should be accompanied by documentary proof of their export/import/joint venture interest with Bangladesh.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I]

GYPSUM PLANT STARTS PRODUCTION--D.G. Khan, Dec 2--The gypsum plant, costing Rs 100-million involving foreign exchange component of Rs 25 million has gone into production of Taunsa, in D.G. Khan District. This was stated by Mr Mohammad Khurshid, Project Director of the plant. He said the plant set up by the Gypsum Corporation of Pakistan, in collaboration with West Germany, is producing 800 tons of wall plaster, agro gypsum and plaster of Paris daily. The raw material is obtained from the reserves of Rodo Hills, 35 kilometers from the factory which are sufficient to meet requirements for about 70 years. The Gypsum Corporation is considering to manufacture gypsum partition walls, ceiling blocks and partition board. The annual capacity of the gypsum plant has gone to 240,000 tons. The plant is being run by the Pakistani engineers. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 3 Dec 84 Business Supplement p I]

ALLEGED KGB AGENT ARRESTED--PESHAWAR, Dec. 5--The Peshawar Police on Tuesday night arrested one Amanullah, alleged to be a KGB agent, and recovered from him two hand grenades, one 303 rifle, one rifle 12 and 13 SMG cartridges. According to police sources S.P. Urban, organised a raid on a house in Tehkal Bala, within Peshawar municipal area, at 2.30 a.m. and arrested the saboteur who had come from Afghanistan allegedly for subversive activities. Meanwhile, the city police seized two hand grenades from Gulbahar Colony. These bombs were lying on road side in a plastic bag. Investigation is in progress. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 6 Dec 84 p 3]

ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC MANPOWER--KARACHI, Dec. 8--An academy is being established for arranging the pre-service in-service training courses for research staff on regular basis. This was stated by the Adviser to the President on Science and Technology, Dr M. A. Kazi, while explaining the steps proposed to be taken for development of scientific manpower in the country. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 2]

QUESTIONNAIRE ON WOMEN--ISLAMABAD, Dec 8--The Council of Islamic Ideology under constitutional provision submitted its final report and concluded its tenure in May 84 says an official handout. The questionnaire reported to have been circulated on the status of women in Islam is not under approval of the Council of Islamic Ideology nor the Government and may be deemed as purely an academic exercise. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 2]

URDU PUBLICATIONS FROM CHINA--Lahore, Nov 28--Leader of the visiting Chinese delegation of the Foreign Publishing House, Mr Zhao Yihe, has expressed hope that cooperation between Pakistani and Chinese publishers will grow and people of Pakistan will be able to read Chinese magazines and other publications, particularly on advanced Chinese technology, in Urdu in the near future. He was speaking at a dinner hosted by the zonal office of the Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association here on Tuesday. Mr Zhao said that his delegation had explored the potential for Chinese publications to be made available to the people of Pakistan in Urdu but added that in the current tour they were only expected to make an assessment, so they had not signed an agreement with any publisher in Pakistan. Earlier, the chairman of the PPBA zonal office, Chaudhry Abdul Hamid, expressed his confidence that the visit of Chinese publishers would help find new avenues of cooperation in the field of publishing industry of both countries. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 p 3]

GENERAL ARIF VISITS TROOPS--Rawalpindi, Nov 28--General Khalid Mahmud Arif, Vice-Chief of the Army Staff, visited troops in Sialkot area on Tuesday. During his day-long stay with the troops, the Vice-Chief of the Army Staff visited various formation headquarters and a cross-section of army units. At the training areas of each unit, General K.M. Arif was briefed by the respective commanding officers about the training programme and other professional activities of the troops. He also saw the troops engaged in normal professional training in their respective fields. While talking to troops at various places, General K.M. Arif asked them to pay more attention to their professional training and education which would further enhance their professional capabilities. General Arif stressed the need to improve the training standard of all ranks. The Vice-Chief of the Army Staff talked informally to the jawans and asked about their welfare. He also awarded prizes to the jawans for their dedication and devotion in their profession.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 p 3]

UAE TEAM DUE--Lahore, Nov 28--A two-member delegation, comprising Muhammad Abdur Rehman al-Ghanim, Director General, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dubai, and MR Abdur Razzaq Abdur Rehman al-Hijra of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sharja, is visiting Pakistan in the first week of next month in order to explore the possibilities of importing Pakistani tobacco, in particular, and other items, in general. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 Business Supplement p 1]

ELECTRONICS PLANT PLANNED--Peshawar, Nov 28--The Small Industries Development Board, NWFP, will set up an electronic assembly plant, in collaboration with South Korea. The unit is estimated to cost Rs 25 million unit shall be located either at Haripur or Peshawar. According to authoritative sources, negotiations with collaborators have been finalised. They have now asked for a complete feasibility before a go-ahead signal could be given. The Lahore-based consultants have been asked by the SIDB to finalise the feasibility study within the next three months. Meanwhile, the Provincial Government is waiting for the issue of notification of by the Federal Government to enforce a Presidential directive early this year, which was meant to give special incentives to the electronic industry in Islamabad and NWFP. The directive was given by the President at the inaugural ceremony of national industrial exhibition in Islamabad in April this year. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 Business Supplement p1]

PAMPHLET FORFEITED--Peshawar, Nov 28--The Government of NWFP has forfeited all copies of a pamphlet captioned "Aga Khanioun Kay Zaire Zameen Mansoobay," written by Maulana Obaidullah Chitrali.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Nov 84 p 6]

IDEOLOGY COUNCIL FAVORS EARLY MARRIAGES--Lahore, Nov 30--The Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) has strongly recommended to allow boys and girls to marry if they have reached puberty from the Shariah's point of view. The CII has further recommended that powers to grant such a permission should be vested in the chairmen of local councils, this correspondent learnt through CII sources. These recommendations were made during a review of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, by virtue of which male persons under 18 and females under 16 years of age are considered as "children" not allowed to marry. The arrangement of such a marriage by anyone is a punishable offence. The parents or guardians of a child (also known as a minor in the legal language) permitting, or holding responsibility of, arranging such a marriage can be sentenced to one month's imprisonment or a fine up to Rs 1,000 or both. Marriage of a male adult above 18 with a 'child' is also liable to the same punishment, according to the Act. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Dec 84 p 1]

PPP MEN ARRESTED--FAISALABAD, Dec. 8--Qazi Ghiasuddin, Janbaz, Deputy Secretary-General (Punjab), defunct Pakistan People's Party, and a PPP worker, Syed Salamat Ali Shah, have been arrested by the Police from Toba Tek Singh and Faisalabad, respectively. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 3]

CASE AGAINST RAWALPINDI COUNCILLOR--RAWALPINDI, Dec 8--Ganj Mandi Police have registered a case against one RMC Councillor, under 16 M.P.O., for making an objectionable speech. The Councillor, Sheikh Rasheed, police say, used indecent language against the regime in a public gathering at Fawwara Chowk [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 3]

AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY--KARACHI, Dec. 8--Pakistan and Turkey are expected to sign a protocol on cooperation in the fields of science and technology early next year, it is learnt. A Pakistan delegation from the Ministry of Science and Technology will visit Ankara to sign the protocol. This follows the negotiations held by a five-member Turkish delegation here last week. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 9 Dec 84 p 1]

AMBASSADOR TO MAURITANIA--Islamabad, Nov 29--The Government of Pakistan announced the concurrent accreditation of Mr Muhammad Yamin, Ambassador of Pakistan to Algeria, as Ambassador of Pakistan to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, says a Press note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here today.--APP [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 84 p 16]

SUPPLY CENTERS FOR PUNJAB--Faisalabad, Nov 29--The Provincial Government has decided to set up district cooperative supplies and marketing federations in all the districts of Punjab. A sum of Rs 64,83000 has been reserved for this purpose. The scheme envisages provision of seed, fertilisers, pesticides and farm equipments to the cultivators at their door-steps.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 30 Nov 84 Business Review p I]

MINISTER ON GROWTH RATE--Islamabad, Nov 29--Pakistan, through a sustained growth rate of over six percent during the last seven years, has not only caught up with other South Asian countries, but has surpassed them in the rate of growth and per capita income. Pakistan's per capita income of dollar 380 per annum is highest in South Asia. This was stated by Minister for Planning and Development, Dr Mahbubul Haq, while briefing the four visiting US Senators in a meeting in the Planning Commission here on Tuesday afternoon. Dr Mahbubul Haq said that Pakistan, which was lagging behind a number of South Asian countries at the time of its independence, had maintained over nine percent growth rate in industrial sector, 4.5 percent in agriculture and seven percent in services in the last 7 years giving an average growth rate of over six percent per annum. This was the fastest economic growth in South Asia which has a total population of about one billion. Pakistan's inflation rate has been kept within a single digit figure. The Minister said that a country which used to import wheat until a couple of years ago was not only self-sufficient in food grains. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 30 Nov 84 Business Review p II]

CSO: 4600/122

END